

THE NOR-WEST FARMER.

Vol. 16; No. 4.
Whole No. 186.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, JUNE, 1898.

\$1 a Year,
in Advance.



Our Illustrations.

On our first page we give an example of the type of Cruickshanks Shorthorn, so

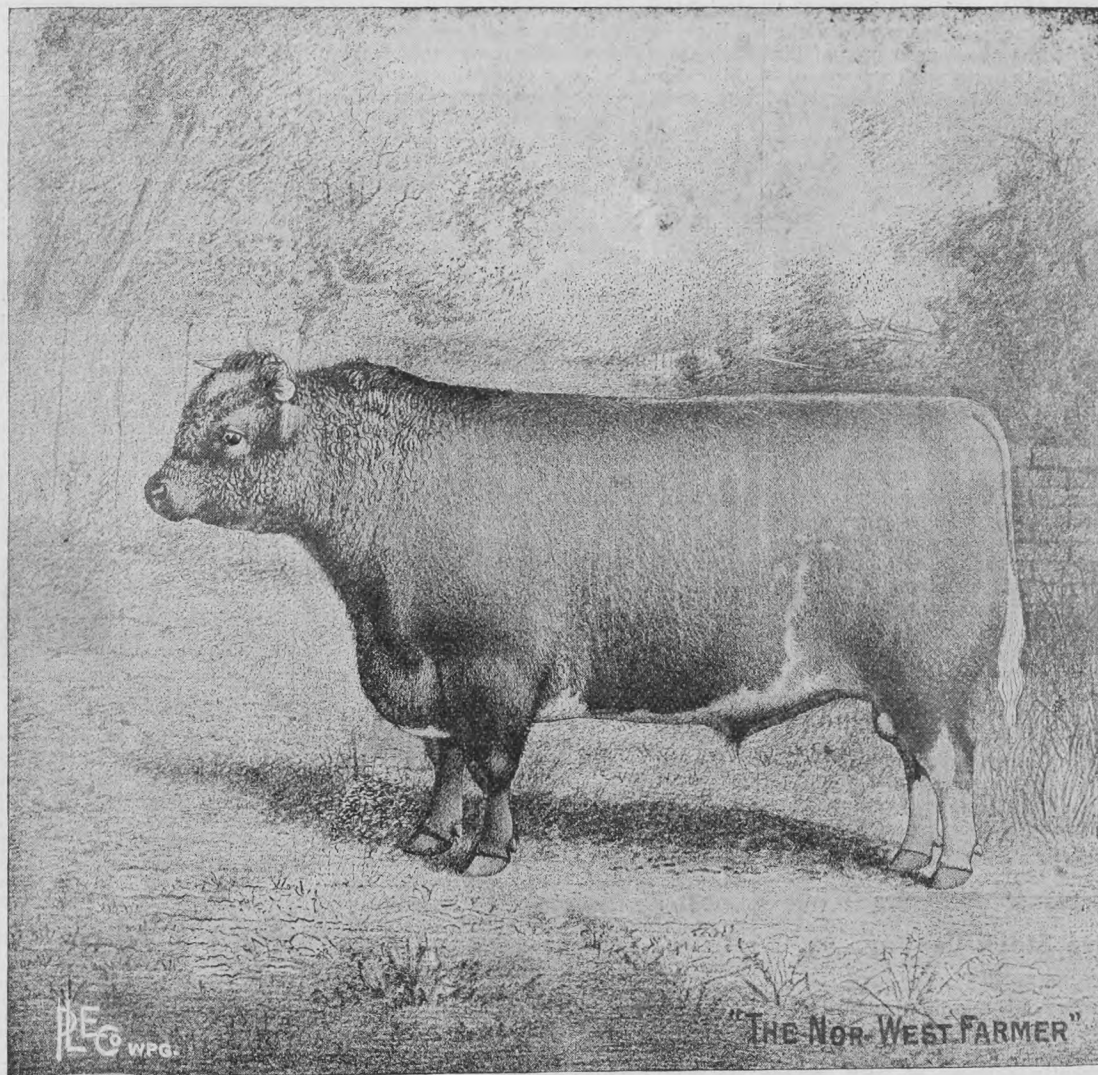
mon Shorthorn stock and now kept as a separate breed, has shown both milk and beef qualities of the best. Acomb was the first Polled Shorthorn sold for export and went to South America.

Corn as Horse Feed.

Fifty cents a bushel for feed oats, with a very considerable sprinkling of fowl seeds through them, is the lowest price likely to rule for oats till the crop now

say on feeding corn to horses. In a recent article he says :—

"Corn is deserving of a higher place as a grain food for work horses than is generally accorded to it, and a higher nutritive value than the chemist would assign to it. The chemist speaks of it as containing too much starch to make it a suitable food for feeding to horses, especially in warm weather. Or, if the chemists do not say that many who have written on this subject say it for them, after they have taken the analysis of the chemists as the basis of their remarks. But the facts



Shorthorn Bull, Baron Cruickshanks 3rd (117968.)

highly esteemed by the breeders of the Northern States of the Union. Baron Cruickshanks 3rd (117968), now 4 years old, is owned by Mitchell & Sons, Danvers, Illinois, and is by imp. Baron Cruickshanks. His dam, Victoria 79th, is also imported and both sire and dam have in them the best Cruickshanks blood. His head is a little rough, but his short legs, blocky frame and grand loin and hind quarter are of the best and his progeny have done remarkably well.

The Polled Durham bull, Acomb, bred by J. Miller, Mexico, Indiana, is also registered in the American Shorthorn Herd Book. This breed, culled from the com-

sown has ripened. From far off Edmonton a few cars have actually been brought to Winnipeg, and it comes to be a question of the highest practical importance how horses doing hard work are to be tided over the summer. There will be a good deal of work done in the country on such support as the pastures can give, and a horse with only green grass feed will be a very weak subject. In the circumstances it becomes imperative on all that have hard work to do to find out a substitute for the oat, which is the ideal food for the best class of horses. Corn has not yet gone so wildly up, and it is worth while to see what Professor Shaw has to

do not sustain those statements, since Illinois, Iowa, and other corn states have good, sound, healthy horses, speaking relatively, and when at work their chief grain food is corn. Much of the prejudice that exists against corn as a food for horses has doubtless arisen from the ill effects that have come from feeding it when not in a perfectly wholesome condition. In many instances it does not properly mature, especially in the northern states. When it does so mature, it is likely to mold more or less, even when the mold on the exterior surface of the corn is not apparent to the eye. Such corn is not wholesome, and dealers sometimes grind

it to hide traces of mold. Such meal should not be fed to horses. The man who feeds it on the cob knows best what he is feeding. On the other hand, the fact should not be overlooked that corn is not nearly so good a food for immature colts and brood mares as oats and bran, since it has not enough of the phosphates in it to build up the horse properly, or enough protein to build up the flesh."

The warning against mold is important in feeding all kinds of stock.

Fraudulent Representations.

At a recent auction sale held in Edinburgh, Scotland, a dealer entered three horses, with the description that they had been owned and ridden by members of a well-known family, whose ownership of such horses was sure to be made a point in their favor. One purchaser wrote the member specified as previous owner of his horse, but found that no such person existed. He then sued the auctioneers for a reduction in price, but the judge held there was no good case against them. He next had the owner and exposor brought up for fraudulent representations, and, as it happened, before the same judge. It was contended for the defence that it was a rather common thing to enter horses under the names of assumed owners, and as the horse was bought on its merits no harm was done. One of the horses thus sold was, in fact, twice sold within the next week, each time at a profit. But the judge thought otherwise. He found that the statement in the catalogue was false, and that it had been fraudulently made. He did not think that in law it was necessary to show that as a result the accused got a price for the horses which was above their real value, and so made money by his false statement. It was undoubted that there was a certain laxness in statements which were made in auctioneers' catalogues with regard to horses which were to be sold. This case went, however, far beyond the ordinary statement, "the property of a gentleman," and so on. The act must be severely punished, to deter others from doing such things in future. He inflicted a penalty of \$50, or thirty days' imprisonment. This decision is worthy of note, as it furnishes an example of what ought to be the fate of everyone who depends on audacious lying as a source of profit.

Live Stock Dealing.

In a country of magnificent distances like this of ours the sale and purchase of live stock for breeding purposes must be pretty frequently a thing of faith, rather than of sight. When a good sire is wanted from a distance by a man whose time and purse will not permit of his going in person to select what he wants, his likeliest resource is to write a breeder of good repute in the line of his proposed investment, telling him what he wants. If the seller is a man of probity and regardful of his reputation, he will give a careful and candid representation of what he has to offer, erring rather on the safe side, so that when the sale and delivery have been completed, the purchaser, if a judge, may be satisfied that he has in his purchase all it was represented to be. Such a transaction generally leads to more of the same kind, for neighbors will soon drop in to inspect the new purchase, make their comments on it, and act accordingly when their own turn to buy come on.

In cases where the seller is a shade less scrupulous, he may keep more than one sire, the most famous of which is frequently the least to be depended on, and in such a case the less known but more sure getter and his share in the business are kept discreetly out of sight, the pedigree of the offspring being prudently credited to the more notable frequenter of the prize rings, that is kept "to head the herd." This sort of thing is not entirely unknown, and occasionally attributed to men who would fain be regarded as immaculate in their breeding and trading reputation. The temptation is certainly a very strong one, and is sometimes covered by the excuse that the real sire is as good as the putative one, only kept in plainer breeding condition, while the show bull is over-fitted to meet the demands of the ring, therefore less sure in his breeding. There may be truth in this argument, but all the same it is not straight goods.

Even from a financial point of view such transactions soon cease to be profitable. Some way or other the murder will out, and the story, with surmises and additions and comments, will travel much farther and faster than that breeder has any idea of. Even when the breeding of the individual has been exactly as represented, there is a lingering suspicion in the minds of those who have heard the rumor, and the good name that breeder values—mainly for its money's worth—is more or less clouded and his business suffers accordingly. There is hidden away inside the boards of the Bible a remark—perhaps some reader of this page has come across it—"Be sure your sin will find you out." This warning should be read and pondered not only by pure stock breeders, but by every business man when the temptation to prevaricate and misrepresent comes strong. Better lose money now by keeping inside the truth than lose money and reputation some day later, as the result of inflated or untruthful representations about what he has to sell, or by concealment of material facts, the knowledge of which would tend to depreciate what he is selling now. In short, the reputation of the stock breeder must be like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, if he wants that reputation as a factor in the making and maintenance of his business success.

There are some amusing features about the controversy raging at present over what is called the "combination cow," i.e., a cow that combines the good qualities of the dairy and beef breeds. W. D. Hoard says the combination cow is a myth and illustrates his case as follows:—"Now take dogs—dogs are a favorite illustration of mine. Take the setter and foxhound; they both have sharp noses, and yet one of them has been bred to smell birds alone and the other four-footed animals alone; as the trotter is there to trot or the mutton sheep to produce mutton and nothing but mutton. Practically dogmen do not act as foolish as farmers. A boy fifteen years old would know better than to go hunting foxes with a bird dog, and yet thousands and thousands of the farmers of Wisconsin are trying to make butter from a beef cow and beef from a butter cow. They seem to have an idea that size is essential to a dairy cow. We don't send men to Washington according to their size." To this one of his opponents retorts:—"I believe as regards dogs Hoard has made some converts. I notice five or six dogs as I pass some farms—one dog (I suspect) to get the cows, one for foxes, one for woodchucks and skunks, one watch dog and one poodle!"

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

CARDS under this head inserted at the rate of \$1.50 per line per year. No card accepted for less than two lines, nor for less than six months.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—from Langshans, Rocks, Golden Wyandottes, 15 for \$2.00, \$3.50. From Leghorns, Guinea Fowl and Ducks, 13 for \$1.00. From Turkeys, 9 for \$1.00. Choice Birds for sale; also Fancy Pigeons and Hares. S. Ling & Co., Winnipeg, Man.

W. S. LISTER, Middle Church, near Winnipeg, Man., Breeder and Importer of Shorthorn Cattle. Stock always on hand of the best quality most popular strains of breeding. Parties wishing to see stock met at Winnipeg on receipt of telephone message or telegraph.

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D. FRASER & SONS, Emerson, Man. Breeder and Importers of Shorthorns, Shropshire, Southdown Sheep. Pedigree Poland China Pigs, specialty, from the best strains in the United States.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—from B. P. Rocks, White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, Javas and Pekin Ducks. 100 prizes in three years. Eggs \$1.50 per 13. John Kitson, Macdonald, Man. 2294

J. VAN VEEN, breeder of Galloway and Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep, Lake View Farm, File Hills, Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa.

JAS. BRAY, Oak Grove Farm. Breeder of improved large Yorkshire Pigs. Young Pigs for sale. Address Jas. Bray, Longburn, Man.

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J. E. MARPLES, Poplar Grove Stock Farm, Del. Man., breeder of Hereford Cattle. Young stock for sale.

JAMES ELDER, Hensall Farm, Virden, Man. Berkshires and Tamworths. Young pigs for sale.

W. M. CHALMERS, Hayfield, Man., breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Correspondence solicited.

A. B. POTTER, Montgomery, Assa. Breeder and Dealer in Holsteins and Yorkshire Pigs.

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A. GRAHAM, Forest Home Farm, Pomeroy, Ont.

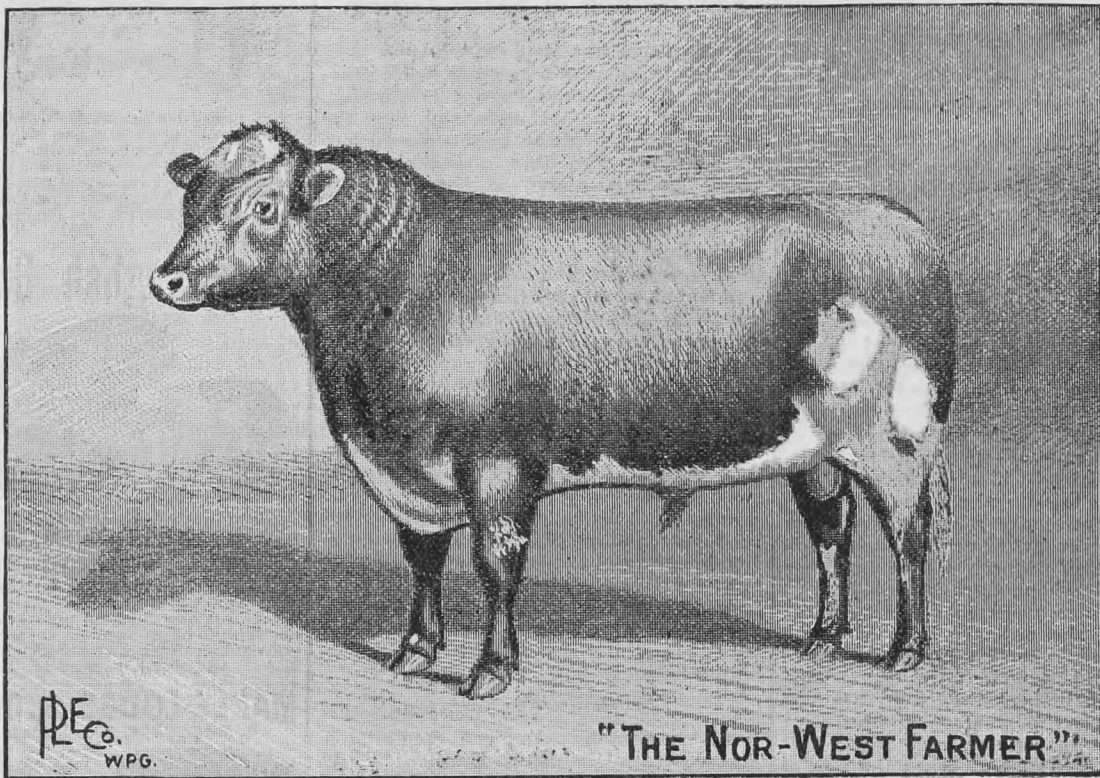
Fast or Loose.

Some little time ago a representative of The Farmer was called down at a public meeting for saying that the consensus of opinion among the best stock feeders in this country was fast getting conformed to the practice in the old land of grouping feeding stock in small yards or loose boxes, rather than have them tied by the neck, as has been very much the rule here. The critic of that occasion did not make a success of it, but made up in bitterness what he failed to do in facts. It would be folly to contend that there are no possible objections to the practice of loose feeding. There are objections, sometimes quite numerous, to all of the ten commandments, but the majority of sober thinking people still agree that there is still a good deal worth attending to in that war-worn old Decalogue.

As an example of the style of criticism to which the loose system has been subjected may be pointed out that a beast

which the test extended being the fourth month. The six loose steers averaged nearly 70 lbs. more gain in live weight than those kept tied, the consumption of feed being the same in both cases. One steer in the loose lot was off his feed a few days, but that was a trifle. It may be assumed that the steers were selected with a view to a perfectly fair comparison, and of good feeding quality. It is, therefore, rather disappointing to find that 15 good steers, fed with extra skill and care on a judiciously varied diet, made less than 50 lbs. a month live weight each, the six loose fed making 60 lbs. If the shrinkage for the butcher deducted from the last month's gains be allowed for, we get a few pounds more average. It is manifest that the less elaborate blending of rations made by the common farmer is not after all such a down-draught on weight of gain and consequent profits, as the more learned of our farming oracles teach. Even here in the west, with our ration of prairie hay, and a few pounds of chop daily, we make from perhaps an inferior

crowd, and two or three which would have made a strong contrast on a lecture platform to the easy-going breeding of too many in the crowd. It was impossible to tell the exact age of any of them, but there was one just a year old so far superior as to invite question. He was of good Shorthorn type, and had got a few turnips. Eighteen dollars was offered for this fellow in the yards and refused. A few more had been fairly well wintered, but a steer with Jersey or Holstein blood in him would have been rejected altogether last year, and is still at a discount. The progeny of the grade bull was far from rare, and when the fall round-up comes, all the virtues of the western bunch grass will not ensure for such breeding a satisfactory result. Scrub breeding and poor feeding characterize the immense majority of the stock taken out of or through Manitoba of late, and it will be worth while to follow up their experience till October, when the true value of good blood will become as conspicuous as it is now. In all cases the Shorthorn,



"THE NOR-WEST FARMER"

Polled Durham Bull, Acomb.

with liberty to move round is sure to use, and consequently to waste, more food than if it were tied by the neck. It is of no use to tell such objectors that a better quality and greater quantity of lean meat will result from some amount of freedom. You may argue with anybody, sometimes quite ably, but it is one thing to use good arguments and quite another thing to convince.

Last winter Hon. Wm. Mulock tried the difference between feeding at the stake and feeding in stalls, and showed a gain of about 150 pounds on a 6 months' test, in favor of letting the beasts go loose. This was thought by many a too strong case, and last fall, at the Guelph Experiment Station, Wm. Rennie made a more careful test, the results of which he has just published. He tied up 15 steers on Nov. 1, 1897, and put six more in an open stall. Both lots had the same varieties of feed all through. The cost of the carefully varied diet of each beast ran from 8.65 cents a day to 12.75 cents, the most expensive month of the six over

grade of cattle gains as good as this experiment shows, and with hay alone, and one feed daily of straw, we have turned out steers of no mean quality. Anyway the hard and fast system of housing is losing reputation very rapidly, and every feeder should know why.

Another Object Lesson.

A few days ago Messrs. Haslam and Wright, of St. Francois Xavier, went west with ten cars of stockers from New Brunswick, to be placed on the ranches at Calgary. Nearly all the young stock sent west and south this spring has been low in condition. It is questionable if the poorest of them will be worth much more in the fall than they are bought at now. This lot from the far east had some very poor young things among them, both in breed and condition, but there was a small proportion of fairly well graded and decently conditioned yearlings in the

or its grades, forms the bulk of the exhibit. Scrubs are too numerous, but even they take to the Shorthorn style. This paper is not meant as an argument for any particular breed, but to maintain and repeat what has so often been said before, that blood will tell, if it has not to fight against downright starvation.

Horseshoeing is a science in itself. The good horseshoer should be patronized to the exclusion of the one that does not know his trade.

A Roman nose in a horse, like a corresponding aquiline shape in a man, generally indicates strong individuality, often accompanied by great intelligence. A straight facial line is quite often found with a high degree of intelligence, but a dish-faced horse is rarely anything but a nonentity in character or a fool. A fine muzzle denotes a highly nervous organization, while a coarse and large muzzle, with small and non-expansive nostrils and pendulous lower lip, means stupidity.

Canadian Hogs for U. S. Bacon.

It may be remembered that a short time ago the Armour Packing Co. sent one of their buyers to Canada to select a lot of pigs to be cured for bacon, as a test of the alleged superiority of the Canadian fed hog for bacon purposes. The best analysis of all stock feeding theories is the world's market, and, as was shown by the illustration in the last issue of The Farmer, it is the middle of a properly built and fed hog that is worth most money by the pound. On the English market the neck and shoulders are worth \$8 per cwt. of 112 lbs.; the streaky and rib meat, \$20, and the ham end, \$17. It is clear, therefore, that the pig that gives most of the dear meat must, if he can be fed at or near the same cost, be the pig to aim at producing. Charles Lennan, the Armour buyer, who had charge of the experiment with Canadian fed pork, thus gives his views in the Breeders' Gazette:—

1. With regard to its conformation. The pig, like the poet, is born, not made. It should have a lengthy body with larger hams and smaller shoulders than are usually seen on the hogs that come to our Chicago market. A small head set on the body with a light neck, a good, deep side and a back that is not too heavy, complete its frame.

2. As to breed. The best breeds are Yorkshire, Berkshire, Tamworth and Improved Chester White and all the crosses of these breeds. During my trip through the Province of Ontario for the purpose of finding out all I could learn with regard to the breeding and feeding of pigs for the export bacon trade, I could find no other kind of hogs than the above mentioned and their crosses, and as far as my experience goes I feel sure that the cross of the Tamworth boar and the Yorkshire sow produces a bacon hog that cannot be excelled. The great majority of hogs raised in the West have a large percentage of Poland-China in them and the light hogs of this breed are too short and chunky to ever make a good bacon pig. We do, however, get some light hogs from Missouri that if properly fed would be as near the right shape as can be made.

3. Does the difference between the bacon pig and the ordinary hog lie in the breed or feed? It is necessary to have breed and feed to make good bacon pigs. Bacon pigs have been bred for years past to have a larger percentage of lean meat in the carcass than the average hog—a fact that may be seen at once when the side of meat is cut.

4. Will corn make the desired quality of bacon when fed to any sort of swine? Most undoubtedly, no. Corn contains a greater proportion of oil than other small grains, which the hog assimilates more rapidly than any other animal, and the fat so produced is far softer and contains more oil than the fat of a hog fed in the proper manner to produce the right kind of bacon.

5. Will bacon pigs command a premium on the market over the ordinary corn-fed type sufficient to justify farmers in growing them? That is a very difficult question to give an answer to. There is absolutely no means of knowing how a hog has been fed while he is alive; the only test is when he is killed and chilled. There is as much difference between the fat of a good bacon hog and that of one fed on corn as there is between the fat of a corn-fed hog and that of a long-nosed Texas hog fed on mast. There is no doubt in my mind that if our packers could have any guarantee that hogs were fed in the proper manner they would be willing to pay a premium for them. The best bacon hogs in Canada, Denmark and the British Isles are fed in connection with

dairy farming, and if that branch of hog-raising is to be tried in the United States it must be in conjunction with the dairy industry to become successful.

The Canadian Grocer, of May 20, 1898, says:—"Armour & Co., packers, of Chicago, recently purchased 150 Yorkshire bacon pigs in Canada, paid duty on them going into the States, turned them into bacon, and shipped the product to the English market for the purpose of seeing how it would compare with United States bacon. The Breeders' Gazette, of Chicago, says the result shows that the bacon made from the Canadian hogs commanded a premium over the price secured for the United States product. This premium was not, however, sufficient to warrant the importation of hogs from Canada and the payment of duty on them. The probable outcome of the experiment would appear to be that the Armour's will endeavor, by offering higher prices, to induce farmers to produce hogs of a similar class."

New Method of Bacon-Curing.

During the past year experiments have been going on with a new method of curing bacon at a large factory in Sweden, and have proved so successful that the new process is likely to be introduced into other works. The meat is cooled in the usual way and placed in iron cylinders that can hold about 200 sides of bacon at the same time, and the lids are closed and can be kept closed by water pressure. The advantages claimed for this method, which is patented, are, besides others, the following: The "auto-cured" bacon will retain the juice of the meat, by which it becomes more nutritious and tender, and of milder flavor than bacon cured according to the usual method. It is easier to digest and keeps for a longer time than the latter, so that it need not be "forced off" in sale even during hot weather. It will lose no more in weight than other bacon when smoked. Swedish auto-cured bacon has been sent unbranded for some time to London from the above mentioned factory, together with other bacon cured according to the usual method, and has been preferred to the latter, having attained about a couple of shillings per cwt. higher price.

A very notable example of fecundity in a cow was a Shorthorn-Hereford grade, owned by Mr. Kernaghan, mason, Pilot Mound. For five years in succession she dropped heifer twins and finished with three bulls at once. That proved more than she could stand, but her offspring are all alive. Perhaps this is a unique example of fertility, and we shall be glad to hear of well authenticated cases that even approach it.

The Riverina (Australia) Record says: Mr. S. McCaughey is a leviathan among squatters and the king of sheepowners, the largest shearer of sheep in the whole world. Including freehold and leasehold, he has 3,000,000 acres of land. His big station in the Riverina he calls a mere stud farm. It is only a trifle of 40,000 acres of freehold and 5,000 of leasehold. The rest of his land is on the Darling, where he has two stations, Tooralie and Dunlop. A million of acres are near Hughendon in Queensland. In the last drought of 18 months in the west his losses in sheep and lambs totalled no fewer than 360,000 sheep. All the same he can still boast that he shears a million a year. This is the record, not only for Australia, but for the world. Mr. McCaughey can claim to be the greatest single sheep owner on earth.

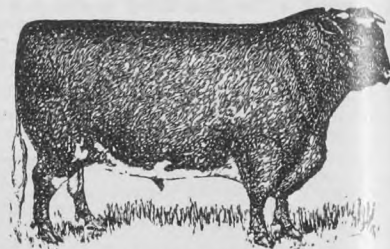
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I have now on hand four litters farrowed in March, the best I ever had, and I feel safe in stating that there is no better blood in America. These are from mature prize-winning sows and will please the most fastidious buyer. More sows to farrow early in April. Am now booking orders for pairs and trios not akin, to be shipped latter part of April. Send post card for descriptive catalogue. 2252 Address—J. A. MCGILL, NEPEAWA, MAN.

MAPLE LODGE STOCK FARM,

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Breeder and importer of large English Berkshires. Herd headed by Perfection, unbeaten under 12 months in Ontario, winner of 9 1st prizes at the largest shows in Ontario, including 1st at Toronto Industrial, 1897. Some nice young pigs for sale, single or in pairs, not akin, from long English Berkshires of the correct bacon type, easy to feed and quick to sell. Herd has been a prize winner at the largest shows in Manitoba. Young pigs ready to ship at 8 to 9 weeks old. Buy now and save express charges. Write for prices. 2297

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Shorthorns, Cotswolds and Berkshire Boars for service. Sows in farrow, spring litters ready to ship bred from the greatest prize-winning herd in Manitoba or the West. English imported and Canadian bred dams and sires. 30 head fitting for July fairs, all A1, headed by Tippecanoe, Bartolduke and Western Boy. 2184

F. W. BROWN, Proprietor.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR

Rice's Pure Salt

BEST FOR TABLE, DAIRY AND FARM.

England and Tuberculosis.

A Royal Commission has for some time back been investigating the subject of tuberculosis, and has just issued its report. There can be no question of the important nature of the subject. Many of the most valuable herds in the country have been ruined by it, and there is urgent need of something being done to check it, not only for the sake of the breeders, but in the interests of the public health. The Commission does not think that compulsory slaughter of those animals found affected can be carried out. The expense would be too heavy, and in Belgium, where it was tried, with partial compensation to the owners, the expense was found so great that that plan was dropped. It is admitted that there is such an amount of tuberculosis, especially among dairy cattle, that to kill them off would seriously thin out the breeding stock of the country. Some members of the Commission visited Denmark, and carefully investigated the plans followed by Prof. Bangs, which they recommend for adoption in England. His plan, shortly stated, is first to test with tuberculin, then isolate the re-acting portions of the herd, separating the calves of the affected cows, and testing again at proper intervals those first found safe, while gradually killing off as beef those that re-act a second time. That and the introduction of sounder sanitary conditions is the course proposed.

It is suggested that tuberculin and the free services of veterinary surgeons be provided for such farmers as will avail themselves of their skill, and arrange at the same time to isolate those found affected. The weak point in this plan is that to propose making such a test on his herd would at once bring a man under suspicion, and it is much more for his interest to let things slide and go it blind. Till purchasers of dairy cows and special breeding stock insist on a test of soundness and are willing to pay in proportion, it is mere waste of words to make suggestions. Prudent stock owners will adopt improved methods of arrangement and ventilation and look out for "piners," but we know very well that cattle may be badly affected for years before the pinning stage is reached, and the best cared for will live on and spread disease, while those less favored may come to a quicker end feeding at the straw stack and exposed to the environment that only a healthy scrub can withstand and live through.

On the whole, the labors of this Royal Commission appear much the same in their value and ultimate chances of doing good very much on a par with the conclusions reached by similar enquirers there and here. We have had one such lately regarding intemperance, and the bulky blue book in which its work is embalmed has perhaps never been read through by any one except the proof reader. Still, tuberculosis is worth watching, and it may be news to some that before purchasing family cows, some private parties here had them carefully tested by trustworthy veterinarians.

It costs but little more to raise a good animal than it does a poor one. The introduction of good bulls is almost invariably an investment, and not an expense. Warm beef blood not only produces a better animal, but produces him in less time, and one that will get fat on grass where a cold blood will remain thin. In cattle raising, as in almost every other vocation in life, the producer who takes pains with his stock and markets the class of stuff for which there is the best demand will be most successful.

The Bacon Pig.

Mr. Sanders Spencer is known all over the pork-growing world as the champion breeder of Improved Yorkshires, and he has been recently laboring in his vocation as an authority on the pig of the period. For there is a new pig, just as there is a new woman, and Mr. Spencer is not the feeblest of its prophets. His contention before the audience of his brother farmers, to whom he spoke, is that there is more money in pork at present and in the near future than can be taken out of any other kind of stock. In support of this contention, he points to the well-sustained and fast increasing British demand for pork, to the thinning out by hog cholera of the swine population of the United States, from which most of the bacon is imported, to the greater relative profit to be got out of pork-breeding as compared with sheep and cattle, to the superiority of the English breed of pigs as compared with the lard hogs of the States, to the ease with which a regular supply of pork can be raised there, and lastly to the advantages enjoyed by free trade England, in the free entry of all kinds of pig feed from every quarter of the globe.

In support of these propositions Mr. Spencer shows that the British imports of pork, in one form or other, totalled up to 5,861,388 cwt. in 1895, worth \$75,000,000. This was thought a monster import, but in 1897 the weight crept up to 7,315,613 cwt., over two-thirds of which was in the form of bacon. Much of this came from the States, but they have 1,000,000 fewer pigs to-day than the average of the last 15 years, and the cholera scare will most likely keep it down for years to come. Mr. Spencer points out that the demand for a finer quality of bacon is driving out the heavy weight pig of the past. The new pig lives faster and dies at less than half the age of the coarse porker of the olden time, and this rapid maturity into tenderer and more palatable pork has made bacon dearer by 30 per cent. than it was 20 years ago. One special factor in this enhanced market value is due to the increasing demand for the finer quality of the modern product. His argument is that if the quality is kept up and a greater quantity of the best sort put regularly on the market, the price will not be lowered for the demand will continue to grow. His contention that Britain is a cheap feed market is perfectly correct. It is curious that Denmark for the production of her butter draws very largely on Britain for cow feed. There can be no dispute about the special bacon qualities of the British breeds. Our own best sorts are brought from there.

The motive to the discourse of Mr. Spencer is the desire to get up a pork factory in his own district by means of a joint stock company, managed and operated on the newest and best methods. It may take some time before they can turn to such good account the by-products of such a factory as is done on this side of the Atlantic, but it can be done.

What Mr. Spencer demonstrates to be for the good of the English farmer is surely equally desirable and still more practicable for the farmers of Western Canada. We can raise cheap feed, and if we lay down a few acres of Brome grass convenient to a good water supply, we can have the best of summer pasture at a nominal price. To breed in say March, feed the pigs in a good pasture till November, and finish on rough grain, chopped, killing about the new year means choice pork at a cheaper rate than it can ever be produced in England. A good sow can be bred twice a year, and an average of 18 or 20 pigs a year from such a sow means a much faster turnover of

money to good purpose than can ever be done with cattle. That a fall litter can be profitably fed through the winter many good examples clearly prove. The possibilities for greatly increased pork production have never been seriously taken hold of. Whenever there is no frosted wheat to dispose of, the brood sows, bad or good, are very soon slaughtered off. This is a huge mistake. A good breeding sow is worth much more than a bad cow. What we want to do is to study the question and act on our best insight. Feed is now very high, but corn can be grown before our growing pigs need it, and the pig of to-day will be sure to pay his way if done justice to between now and Christmas.

Condition and Breeding.

At a convention of Shorthorn breeders, in Iowa, there was considerable discussion on the effect show-ring requirements as to condition would have on the breeding powers of the animal. Prof. Curtis said:—"It makes a difference as to how you put flesh on an animal, whether the animal will be injured or not. It is a quite general opinion that a breeding animal must not be kept in high flesh. Now, I believe that the theory has worked a great deal of injury. I believe that character is one thing that an animal should have. I believe that the beef animal that is kept poor will lose to some extent the power of transmitting to his progeny the tendency to put on flesh. I do not believe it to be necessary to keep an animal down to preserve his usefulness. There are too many animals being kept that way. The way to get an animal to transmit a beef quality is to keep him in a beef condition all the time. The show ring, it is true, goes too far in demanding fat animals and does impair their breeding power. You can feed a young animal to high flesh and not hurt him when you might ruin a mature animal. If more of our animals were fed high they would be better for it. Then comes the method by which the flesh is put on. If you feed up an animal quickly on a fattening ration there is danger of hurting him. But if he be fed up on grass, roots, bran, oats and the like, that will give him a good finish and not hurt him. In the ring animals shown as breeders should not be judged by the fat on them.

Q.—Is not exercise an important factor?

A.—Yes, sir. Give an animal all the exercise he wants and you are not likely to hurt him with feed.

Where the calf and milk are both objects on the farm it becomes necessary to economize, in order to get the most out of the business. Very frequently there is a cow on the place which is an unpleasant milker, and as a calf raiser she can be made more valuable than to have her in the dairy, so it will be well to let her take care of two calves. Tie the cow in a wide stall, so short that she cannot get her head around to injure the calf. Then let both calves in. Stand between the cow's head and the strange calf until it has finished its feed. Then put both calves out where the cow cannot see them. After a few feeds she will become used to double duty, and her milk having passed through the strange calf she cannot detect which is her calf, and the work is then complete. Both calves will fare alike, and she will raise them satisfactorily. Where butter or milk is an object this plan can be easily made to work a good purpose, or where a cow, from any cause, has been injured or made unfit to suckle her calf.

Reading for the Farm Boys.

Professor Plumb, Director of the Indiana Experiment Station, has recently been issuing a series of what he calls "Leaflets on Nature Study," mainly with a view to making the leading features of farming knowledge familiar to young people on the farm. They are for use in what may be called the home school of agriculture, and have had a very large circulation, with a continually increasing demand. Ten of these leaflets are already out, and ten more are in preparation. We give as a specimen what is said on

THE CARE OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

The purpose of this little leaflet is to aid in training the powers of observation of children, by studying the animal life of their daily surroundings at home. Enough suggestions are given to the teacher in this to enable one to discuss several phases of such life with the children, and inspire them with an ambition to become more familiar with the daily needs and welfare of farm animals.

Once upon a time, over a century ago, there lived in England a little boy by the name of Robert Bakewell. He lived with his parents, and helped take care of the horses, cattle, sheep and swine on the farm. He showed an unusual interest in all of the live stock, and was with them much of the time. As he grew in years, so his interest in farm animals increased. He was rather a reticent fellow, and kept his thoughts to himself. But he was a great thinker and observer. He saw that the people about him had many animals that were unworthy of their keeping. The stock grew slowly, ate much expensive food, were of ill shape and were not profitable to their owners. And so, after giving this matter much thought, Robert Bakewell began the work of improving the farm animals of his locality, in the county of Leicester. Horses, cattle and sheep he resolved to improve to a higher standard of excellence. His neighbors laughed at him, but he was not diverted from his self-assumed task. For years he worked at his problems, and finally he placed before the admiring world the improved English cart horse, long-horn cattle and Leicester sheep. Then Bakewell was honored, even beyond the shores of Britain, and in later days he became known as "the father of improved live stock husbandry."

What led to Bakewell's success?

A natural love for animals. The faculty of observation. An ambition to improve that which he thought was inferior. The use of better methods. Persistency of purpose.

Are not all these qualities found, to some degree, in you? Do not the boys and girls of the farm, more often than not, love the animals with which they come in contact? How can this love be turned to account as a means of education in one direction, and animal betterment in another?

Let us see! Robert Bakewell, as one engaged in caring for and improving farm animals, believed in three things:—

(1) Stabling or shelter; (2) Proper feeding and watering; and (3) Gentle treatment.

Have you ever thought what a highly developed being the improved farm animal of to-day is? Did he not once run wild and independent? Has not the will of man greatly improved the horse, ox, cow and pig since the days when they roamed wild? Seventy-five years ago the fastest horse could scarcely trot a mile in three minutes. Do you know what the fastest record is to-day? Where cattle run wild they produce only enough milk to raise their calves on. How much milk has the best cow you have ever heard of given in a year? In some parts of the country, where the pigs run wild and have no care, they are so thin and have such long legs, that they call them "razor backs," and they can almost outrun the fastest dogs. How do the best looking pigs that you see on our farms and at our fairs look, compared with a "razor back?"

Yes, it is true, the farm animal of to-day is an artificial one, composed of either nerves, muscle, meat or wool, and over which man has a wonderful power, if he but knew it. Once shelter and care would have been an injury; now is more frequently a necessity. And so you should know the real necessity of giving farm animals the care that humanity and economy make desirable.

Would it not be well to look into the necessity of these things? Suppose we consider some phases of the lives of farm animals, that we might give attention to, and thereby add to the

comfort of dumb beasts, while adding to our own knowledge of life.

STABLING OR SHELTER.

All animals require protection from the changes of weather, or other conditions, to a greater or less extent. In the severe cold of winter or heat of summer, what do most animals naturally do? Do they seek for shelter? Is it for this reason, in part, that sheds or barns are erected? How do cattle look as they stand in the cornfields or barnyard on a cold, cloudy day in January, with a strong wind blowing? On the great prairies cattle seek the protection of groves or windbreaks, where other shelter is not provided. In the cooler northern part of the country, in winter, as in Indiana, for example, the humane and wise man provides comfortable barns, or warm sheds in which his stock may be housed.

Is this important? Let us see.

Some years ago the writer conducted an experiment at the Indiana Experiment Station, at Perdue, to see if shelter was desirable for animals in winter. Six cows were used. Three of these were given shelter from all kinds of disagreeable weather, while three were kept out, exposed to all sorts of conditions during the day, the only shelter provided being a small shed open on two sides. This experiment showed several things. First, that the exposed cows produced less milk each day than the sheltered. Second, the exposed cows lost in weight, while those given shelter gained. Third, the exposed cows ate more food than the sheltered ones. Fourth, from the financial side, the sheltered cows showed nearly \$13 more to their credit than did the exposed ones.

The animal body is something like the boiler of an engine. The food is the fuel which creates the energy to make the body go. If this body is exposed to severe cold, then more food, or fuel, is necessary to keep the system up, and so the cost for food is increased.

Another thing should never be lost sight of, and that is that it is cruel to expose animals to intense cold without, for hours at a time. Even in summer, when there is no breeze, and the heat is excessive, all kinds of farm stock will suffer if they cannot secure shelter of some kind from the sun's rays.

Suppose that we make some observations on the subject of shelter. Turn one of the horses or cows out of doors in cold winter weather, and note how it affects the appearance and the appetite. When it is stormy in winter, if possible, compare the condition of wool and skin of a flock of sheep out of doors with those kept in shelter. Ask the man who buys and sells wool what kind of fleece is most valuable, the one from sheep running in the rain and snow, or the one kept in the dry shed? In summer, place some pigs in a field exposed to the sun, where they can get no shelter, and compare their appearance and comfort with those lying in the shade. In warm weather, when flies are biting badly, begin to weigh the milk of four cows morning and night. Now turn two of these into the pasture and keep two in a darkened stable, and see what is the influence on the milk yield and comfort of the different animals.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

All true lovers of animals enjoy watching them eat. In the great zoological gardens crowds assemble to see the lions eat and to feed the monkeys peanuts and candy. There is a sense of pleasure in watching our farm animals, with hearty appetite, eating their grain in the manger. The most successful feeders study the appetites of their stock, and enjoy giving changes of diet and noting the relish shown by the animal in eating it.

Of the foods fed, horses prefer oats or corn. Cattle and sheep relish both of these, as well as bran and oil meal, while pigs enjoy corn or shorts or middlings best. In fact, a large share of the pigs grown in the United States are fed on corn or its products.

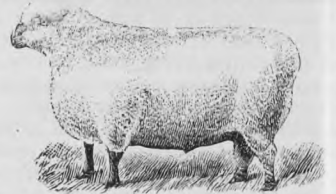
All classes of stock, however, enjoy and need herbage in some form, either dry or green. Horses are usually fed timothy hay, and cattle clover and corn fodder, green or dry, while sheep need clover, or some kind of fine grass, as, for example, Kentucky blue grass. This last is the best pasture grass we have, though for pigs nothing is better than green clover.

Now, that we know what foods are used, how shall the animals be fed? Shall they be fed at any regular hours? Is

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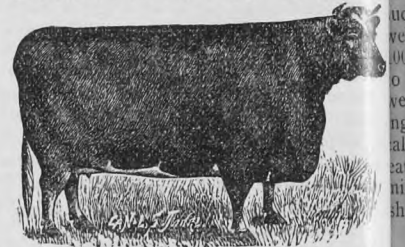
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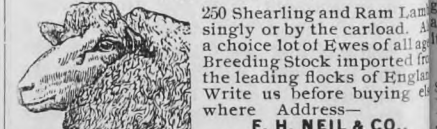
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are a good and a bad way to feed? Suppose, we say, that the best way to feed horses is to give them water first, then the grain, and last, hay. Is that right? That the way you do at home? I think horses should be watered before eating. That is, so they will not wash their food down before they have ground it up well in the stomach. But suppose you ask a few men you know, who have horses, when they give them water, and report on this subject.

Cattle are usually fed their grain first, and then the hay, or coarse fodder, or pasture. Horses and cattle must be fed morning, noon and night, although grain is not usually fed at noon. Much, however, depends upon circumstances, for horses that are hard worked, cattle that are being fattened, or heavily used, require more nutriment than do others. Sheep and pigs should be fed at morning and night, but, if being fattened, it is best to feed them three times a day.

It is important that all kinds of stock be fed such an amount as will be entirely eaten, and with a relish, especially the grain. With coarse hay or clover there always is necessarily some woody material left uneaten.

Here is a good chance to make some observations. What do the live stock you are acquainted with eat? How much do they eat of this or that? At what hours of day are they fed? Do you know how fast they grow? There are sheep and pigs on many farms where simple feeding experiments might be conducted. Let us take two lambs about the same size, and feed one corn meal and the other ground oats, and see which will grow the best. We should have scales, and the lambs should be weighed occasionally, say, once a week, and an accurate record kept of their growth. Then, in a few weeks, it will be interesting to report on the gain in weight, how many pounds of grain were eaten, its value, and which cost the most. Will it not be easy to feed the calves the skim milk for a few weeks, weighing or measuring what they drink of it, and then report on the amount of such food a calf needs each day to grow well? Can you not show how much each 100 lbs. of skim milk is worth, when fed to calves or pigs? Feed them the milk, weighing what you give daily, and keeping a record of the weights of the pigs or calves. How much grain do some cows eat daily, that make large amounts of milk? Will such a cow give less milk if she is fed less grain?

WATERING.

Few people realize how important it is that farm animals should be watered properly. In winter they suffer most from having to drink from icy pools or troughs, so that if they get enough to satisfy thirst, they are frequently chilled all through. With cold air all about the exterior of the body, and ice-water within, the temperature of the body is reduced, and then more food (fuel) is required in the furnace to warm up the body to the necessary point again. Do you think animals prefer warmed water in winter? Mr. Gurler, in his book, "American Dairying," tells of a case where some young heifers jumped into a water trough to get where the water was coming warm from a pipe. He says his cows when given water slightly warmed keep in better condition and give more milk. I have seen cows go to a stream of water flowing along icy shores, and drink, and then stand humped up and shivering, as though suffering from ague. They were chilled through. A cow will easily drink fifty pounds a day of water at a temperature of 60 degrees, but if at 35 degrees she will not drink all she needs, and will turn away chilled, yet thirsty. Do you know how a cow looks containing fifty pounds of ice water?

Teach the necessity of giving the farm stock water that is pure and clean, and which in winter has the chill removed from it. Filthy water usually carries disease germs, and may cause serious sickness. Thousands, yes millions, of pigs have died from disease through drinking water that was contaminated with cholera germs. The sheep and pig need as pure water as the horse or cow, and they require plenty of it at all times.

Would you not be interested to learn something about this important subject? How much will our farm animals drink at a time? A bucket of water on the scales may be weighed before and after drinking. Will more warm water be drunk than cold? Place a pail of very cold wa-

ter and one of a very slightly warmed water before the horse on a cold winter day and see which he will drink first. How much water does a sheep drink at a time? How much water will a horse drink in a week? Will a horse that is working hard drink more than one standing in the stable? How much more water will a large horse drink than a small one? Do you of any men who have heaters in their water troughs in winter? If so, ask them how they like these heaters.

Gentleness is a most important thing to observe when among animals, if one desires to secure the best results in handling them. The man who has the pigs under his feet whenever he goes into the lot where they are, by his quietness and gentleness has taught them that he is their friend. Such a person usually knows how to feed profitably and raise stock successfully. The man who sits by the nervous cow and quietly soothes her with a gentle voice while milking, instead of using harsh measures, secures more milk and enjoys the company of the beast more than would the man who would "teach her a lesson." No dumb animal was ever improved in disposition, or made more profitable to the owner, by the adoption of brutal or unnecessarily severe measures. The most successful feeders of stock are invariably gentle in handling their animals. The man who succeeds in getting the greatest speed out of a horse on the race track is the one who rules by love, not fear.

Future Prices for Beef Cattle.

That prices of beef are certain to rise is the opinion of J. A. Power, who discusses the question exhaustively in a recent number of the Breeders' Gazette, and sums up the situation in these words:—"We will now draw our conclusions as to the future price of beef after briefly summing up the facts elaborated above. We find that we have a great shortage in the number of cattle, hogs and sheep, and especially a great shortage in mature and breeding cattle; that there is a shortage in both Canada and Mexico; in connection with the fact that we have a tariff law favorable to the checking of imports; that we have a large and increasing export trade firmly established; no foreign competition except in the South American countries, which are competing only when the prices are high; better financial condition with its great bearing on values; no competition with cheap mutton to be feared and the gradual closing of the ranching business in the Northwest. All these are our favorable factors. Our adverse conditions to high prices of cattle are these: That when prices get too high exports will lessen and home consumption will decrease and the large packing concerns will be 'bears,' for if higher prices will lose them their export trade they will not thrive. Considering all these carefully I am forced to the conclusion that top prices are not now, nor will they be, reached within the next twelve months nor perhaps in the next twenty-four. I will not say when maximum values will be realized nor to what prices they will reach, but I will say as my own opinion that I will be disappointed if prices do not reach a higher figure than seven cents in Chicago before there is any decline. Present prices are low enough and they are warranted. Breeding stock is good property to hold, but those who are willing to sell at present prices will readily find purchasers with longer heads who will take their stock. By all means hold good heifers. That there will be a time to sell is of course certain, but it is not now. After awhile prices will tend downward; then sell, but do not mistake a slight drop that may come this summer as meaning a start on the decline."

A carload of prize Shorthorn cattle is on its way to Calgary from Guelph, being shipped to Alberta by Messrs. Shattuck, of Davisburg, and Wright, of Guelph, Ont.

The Brandon Races.

For many years the people of Western Manitoba have been accustomed to look forward to the Queen's Birthday Races of the Brandon Turf Club as a certain source of pleasure, and this year the races were a greater success than ever. The \$2100 offered in purses by the club had attracted a large number of fast horses, the competition was keen, the day fine and the large crowd of spectators were evidently delighted with the day's sport.

The first event was the 2.30 class and six starters faced the wire. Two of these were distanced in the first heat and the race lay between Pinto, a North Dakota horse, and Golden Point, a well-known Brandon equine. An exciting struggle took place. The first heat was won by Golden Point by a length and a half. The second was very close, Pinto being in the lead until a length or two from the wire, when Golden Point, by a splendid spurt, came ahead and won by a head. Time, 2.34½. The third heat was also a good one, Golden Point going off his feet at a critical point, gave an advantage which Pinto took and held to the finish, winning in 2.33. The fourth heat was also a hot one, but was taken by Golden Point amid great applause.

The 2.35 1rot, which was sandwiched with the foregoing, was rather of minor importance, and was won handsly by Pilot, a handsome black gelding from Rolla, N.D. Best time, 2.31½.

The spectators were now eager to see the Free-for-all trotters and pacers, and when they appeared and were introduced by Starter Moore in a few appropriate words, they were greeted with applause. Seldom, if ever, had a better lot of horses faced the starter in an open race in Manitoba. There were Ben Allie (2.14½), Dr. M. (2.12), Ione (2.24½), Tangent, Jr. (2.21), and Well-ahead (2.14½). In the betting Well-ahead was favorite, with Ben Allie and Dr. M. second and third. In the first heat Ione took the lead at the start and held it to the finish, though hard pressed by Well-ahead. Time, 2.21½. In the second heat the horses got away well together, Ione slightly in the lead. This was a race from the word go, and was a hard fought heat. Well-ahead disappointed his backers and seemed unable to go the pace, while Tangent displayed great speed and contested every inch of the finish with Ione, who won the heat in 24, Ben Allie distanced. The third heat showed a great race, Ione, Dr. M. and Tangent coming into the stretch abreast of each other, and making a rattling finish in which Tangent Jr. captured the heat in 24 by half a length. In the fourth heat it could be seen that the pace was beginning to tell and although Ione and Tangent Jr. made a plucky fight the superior staying powers of the old horse, Dr. M., landed him a winner in 28. The fifth and sixth heats were also captured by the old horse in 28½ and 32½, and a great cheer went up from the crowd, for it was a great race, and the victory of a Brandon horse was popular.

The ¾-Mile Dash did not afford much excitement as it was well understood that Sherborne Sands would win it, barring accidents, and he did not disappoint his backers, finishing as he liked in 1.24. D. Shaw's P.D. second.

The Novelty race was a surprise to the talent as they had expected Sherborne Sands to win at the half, three-quarters and mile. Effie was ahead at the ¼ and she and Inthindine raced neck and neck to the ½, when Sands came up just far enough to let Inthindine win by a nose. The Dakota horse then went ahead and won the ¾ and mile.

There were six starters in the Pony race which also turned out a surprise, as it was

not won by the favorite, Red Rover, but by a speedy little Carberry mare named Pyra Lee, owned by R. I. M. Power. Time, 53½, 53½.

This finished the afternoon's racing and as the immense crowd made its way slowly from the grand stand it was impossible to hear any but words of approval and expressions of delight for the splendid afternoon's amusement provided by the Brandon Turf Club.

THE SECOND DAY.

The ball was opened by the 3-minute Trotters and Pacers. There were seven entries for this event, but owing to the bruising heats of the previous day some of them were unable to start and only three horses responded to the tap of the bell: Geers, Free Cuba, and Mollie May. The race was won by the handsome young horse Geers, owned by C. Wilson, Regina, in three straight heats. Time, 42½, 44½, 46½. In the third heat Mollie May's bit broke and her driver having no control over her, it looked as if a serious accident might occur. Fortunately she did not run away and was stopped by the grooms at the paddock.

The 2.30 Trotting was next called, and Barney M., Ethel D., Lady Alexander, and Bridget O'Donohue faced the starter. This was won by Barney M. in three straights, with Huston Bros.' Lady Alexander a good second, Ethel D. third. Time, 2.35, 2.33½, 2.35½.

The half-mile Running race was another illustration of the uncertainties of horse racing. Sherborne Sands was considered so sure to win that it was impossible to get a bid against him and yet he did not win even a heat. Six horses faced the starter and five of them with coats of satin and jockeys resplendent in racing colors, made a gallant show, while the sixth, a brown horse answering to the common-place name of Tom, carried on his bare back a swarthy Indian, whose every day raiment ending in a very dirty pair of socks, made an amusing contrast to the gaiety of the others. After a few false starts, at last they ran off and a loud murmur rises from the grand stand as every one stretches forward eagerly to watch them as they sweep around the turn. Up the far side they flash, three of them so close together that one blanket would cover them. Sherborne Sands had a little the worst of the start and his jockey is trying to get him to the front. He is gaining slowly on the leaders. Round the turn they sweep into the stretch and race down towards us. Wapoose leading, hotly pressed by Sherborne Sands, with King Calico third. Time, 52½.

In the second heat much time is consumed in trying to get them away together, Sherborne Sands refusing to break away with the others. At last they are off to what looks like a good start, when suddenly Sherborne Sands throws his head up, shortens his stride and apparently has made up his mind it is not his day to race. His jockey works at him and gets him going at last but too late, for already the horses are a hundred yards ahead. But what a burst of speed he shows in his gallant effort to overtake them. Up the back stretch he fairly flies, rapidly closing the gap, but it is more than horseflesh can do and the heat is taken by King Calico, Wapoose 2nd, and the favorite, Sherborne Sands, 5th. Under the rules only Wapoose and King Calico could start for the third heat, which was won by Wapoose in 52½.

This concluded the second day's racing and ended the most successful race meeting ever held by the Brandon Turf Club.

Band, Herd and Flock.

An experienced Southern stockman advocates the hay stack as the best place in which to put salt for stock. That they need it, all will admit, but he contends for putting it in the hay or straw stack to do the most good. Will feeders make a note of this?

A calf that is designed as a sire should have good feed and plenty of it from the first, for if once stunted he will never recover from it. While such animals need exercise, they should not be allowed to run at large, and a man needs to be on the look out for them.

A pig breeder says a sound breeding animal is one that is free from any defects, visible or invisible, and that has no obstructions caused by over-feed or bad handling, to the reproduction of its kind. If a man pays more than pork price for a pig he pays this for the ability of that pig to reproduce itself; and if the pig has not the ability, the seller has money for which he has not returned an equivalent.

Care bestowed upon the calf for the first year means a clear gain of a year, besides having a stronger, more useful animal. Breed up, certainly, but feed up also. Work with nature, and a sure reward for intelligent, continuous and well-directed effort will be yours. Bull calves should receive the same care and treatment as heifers. Keep them always growing, so that they may be vigorous and prepotent.

Theodore Lewis says he could not think of cutting the tails from his pigs. The tails are the thermometers which indicate the animal's condition. If not feeling well, not thriving, if his food does not agree with him, the tail will begin to straighten. The sicker the pig the straighter the tail. While the conventional curl retains its place there need be no anxiety about the pig. If a double curl be seen he may be regarded as in perfect condition.

We shall not, perhaps, be far wrong in supposing that the sire of a colt is more apt to supply the spirit, temper, and general appearance of the offspring, while its size, stamina, and constitution are chiefly derived from the dam; but this can be accepted as nothing more than a general rule, subject, as most natural laws are, to frequent variations. Should there be any constitutional infirmity, it should be rather on the side of the sire than the dam, as being in that case less likely to prove hereditary.

Professor Young, Aberdeen, Scotland, is authority for the statement that tuberculosis is disseminated by infection rather than by heredity. In cases where the disease seems to be hereditary it is largely due to force of circumstances and lack of hygiene. The available figures Professor Young stated, proved that at birth, tuberculosis was rare in both children and cattle. His conclusions are that heredity plays a small part in the spread of the disease, and that the large majority of the cases are caused by infection.

It is generally believed that the domesticated horse has existed from time immemorial — that is the earliest time of which we have any record. Assyrian sculptures, some of which are estimated to date from 4200 B. C., contain more representations of caparisoned horses than even men. Still, it is a long time after this before we have any examples of favorite horses. The famous horse, Bucephalus, is as historically real as his master, Alexander the Great. This is the first authentic example of a favorite horse on record. Others are mentioned, but they are somewhat legendary.

FACTS ABOUT HEALTH

It is Easy to Keep Well if We Know How—Some of the Conditions Necessary to Perfect Health.

The importance of maintaining good health is easily understood, and it is really a simple matter if we take a correct view of the conditions required. In perfect health the stomach promptly digests food. The blood is employed to carry nourishment to the organs, nerves, muscles and tissues which need it. The first great essential for good health, therefore, is pure, rich blood. No medicine has such a record of cures as Hood's Sarsaparilla and it is because it is the true blood purifier. Hundreds of people are alive and well today who would have been in their graves had they not taken Hood's Sarsaparilla. It is depended upon as a family medicine by thousands.

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Mention Nor'-West Farmer when writing

Carberry Race Meeting.

These races came off on the Woodbine Park on the Queen's Birthday and the day after. The prizes amounted to over \$1200 and nearly 30 horses faced the starter.

The first race on Tuesday was the race for ponies 14½ hands and under. There were four entries, Boyd's Happy Princess having been barred in the pools the previous night. The purse was \$100. This event proved a walk-over for Goggin's Witch, which was never seriously challenged by any of her competitors. This pony showed great improvement on her last year's form and has developed an undoubted turn of speed. Silence 2nd; Barrett's Starlight 3rd.

The three minute trot brought out five starters. The purse was \$100. The race was trotted throughout in very fast time, the third and deciding heat going in 2.32. when Monarch trotted into the 2.35 class. Monarch is owned by M. McMillan, of Gladstone, who brought him from the east this spring. Minnie M. second; Lady Bird 3rd. Time, 2.39½, 2.38, 2.32.

The half-mile run brought out four horses, three local starters and the fourth a horse from Calgary. In the first heat Boyd's Wathen gave a lot of trouble in starting, breaking away three or four times. The first heat was won by the big black from Calgary, Goggin's Kalmar being a neck behind. In the second and third heats Wathen disposed of the field in short order, and romped home an easy winner, Kalmar getting second place in the second heat, and Dixie Land in the third. Dixie Land 2nd; King Kalmar 3rd. Time, 53, 52, 51½.

The last item for the first day was the free-for-all trot, for \$200, 3 in 5, for which there were three contestants. Dan Hamilton's Floss drove out the first heat, after an exciting race with Confederate Queen. The game little mare possessed the necessary staying power, and beat Floss in the three ensuing heats. The fastest time at the meeting was in the second heat of this race, when the Queen passed under the wire in 2.27, closely pursued by the black Floss 2nd; Prince Frederick 3rd. Time, 2.33, 2.27, 2.29, 2.33.

At mid-day of the second day it began to rain heavily, and continued for three hours, which affected the attendance considerably. The sport was of quite a good quality, and furnished at least one sensational finish. There were six events to be decided, which were all disposed of by a little after five o'clock. The first event was a ¼-mile colt dash for \$100, which was won by Livery Belle, with King Kalmar a good second.

Another ¼-mile dash for 2-year-olds followed, in which Goggin's Greylight best Barrett's Morwenna.

The 2.40 trot or pace for \$150 aroused the most enthusiasm. Hamilton's Floss won the first heat, but was put back to fourth place for "skiving" and the premier place awarded to Minnie Mo., a handsome little bay from Cypress River. She also won the second heat, the third and fourth heats going to Floss. The fifth and deciding heat was one of the prettiest ever seen on a Carberry track. The two kept neck-to-neck the first half, and on the back stretch in the second circuit first one and then the other forged ahead. In coming into the straight, Floss was a little ahead, but Minnie, splendidly driven, drew even, and managed to win out by two feet.

The novelty race for \$100 brought out three starters, Goggin's Witch secured the quarter, and the other three quarters went to Flossietta. A match race between Barrett's Starlight and McKinnon's Silence, best two in three, resulted in an easy win for Silence.

The last event was the one mile dash, for \$125, which was an easy mark for the Boyd stables, Wathen and her stable companion Springstein, both coming home as they pleased.

Race Meet at Virden.

The annual meeting of the Virden Turf Club was held May 30 and 31, and proved a very successful meet.

In the 3-minute trot or pace (purse \$150), Lucy G., a Boissevain horse, won three straight heats, the best time being 2.34½. Pinto (N.D.), 2nd; Golden Point (Brandon), 3rd; Geers (Regina), 4th; Monarch (Carberry), 5th.

There were only three entries for the 2.30 trot, Barney M. (Boissevain); Pilot (N.D.); Lady Alexander (Virden); purse \$150. Barney M. also won first place in three straights, in 2.30½.

The half-mile open running race (purse \$150), finished in the following order:—Flossette (Carberry), 1st; King Calico (N.D.), 2nd; Lady S. (Binscarth), 3rd; Vic. (Virden), 4th; Minnie Athole (Pipestone), 5th.

The Novelty (purse \$100) was a close race until the ½ mile post was reached, when Dixie Land (Calgary), pulled away from Sherbourne Sand (N.D.) and Springstein (Carberry) and won in 1.50½. The time at the quarters, is as follows:—¼ mile 25½; ½ mile, 51½; ¾ mile, 1 18½. The race was a surprise to those in the paddock.

Pyra Lee (Carberry), which won at Brandon, put another victory to her credit by winning the pony race here (purse \$100). Mossy Banks (Carlisle), 2nd; Lady S. (Binscarth), 3rd; Dolly Daydreams (Oak Lake), 4th. Best time, 54 secs.

In the 2.40 trot or pace (purse \$150), Pilot (N.D.), proved a winner in 2.32½; Golden Point (Brandon), 2nd; Lucy G. (Boissevain), 3rd.

Dixie Land met Sherbourne Sand again in the ½ mile (purse \$100) and once more ran under the tape a winner in 1.04; Sherbourne Sand, 2nd; Wathen (Carberry), 3rd; Vic., 4th.

The greatest event of the two days' programme was the open trot or pace (purse \$200). Four horses responded to the tap of the bell, and the three heats were closely contested. Dr. M., the Brandon horse, again upholding his reputation, winning all heats. Ione (Regina), 2nd; Ben Allie (Brandon), 3rd; Tangent Jr. (N.D.), 4th. Time, 2.24½.

Racing at Cypress River.

Tuesday, May 31, was the date of the Cypress River races, and with fine weather, good horses, and a splendid track, a most successful meeting was held. The gate receipts amounted to \$225.

The first event on the programme was the pony race, with six starters, which was a magnificent race from start to finish. Witch (Pleasant Point), and Wapoose (Carberry), had a hot race for first place in the four heats, the second being declared a dead heat. Witch, 1st; Wapoose, 2nd; Lady Lightfoot (Glenboro), 3rd; Dusk (Glenboro), 4th; Red Rover (Boissevain), 5th; Sleepy Jack (Clearwater), 6th.

In the free-for-all trot or pace there were four starters and a track record of 2.25 was made in the last heat by the little Winnipeg mare, Confederate Queen. The horses finished each heat in the following order:—Confederate Queen, 1st; Ethel D. (Wawanesa), 2nd; Minnie Mc. (Cypress River, 3rd; Mambrino Beamish (Cypress River), 4th. Time, 2.31, 2.30½, 2.25.

The open race also had six contestants and finished as follows:—Winiota (Glenboro), 1st; Albert Victor (Pilot Mound), 2nd; Intheden (Carberry), 3rd; Temptation (Cypress River), 4th; Panseymarie (Carberry), 5th; Roodick (McGregor), 6th. Time, 1.06, 1.06½.

Four horses answered to the sound of the bell in the 2.45 trot or pace, as follows: Tot Sharper (Winnipeg), 1st; Mabel Sprague (Stockton), 2nd; Lady Bird (Winnipeg), 3rd; Resort (Cypress River), 4th. Time, 2.39½, 2.39½, 2.40.

Winnipeg Industrial Race Program

TROTting AND PACING EVENTS.

Free-for-all trot or pace, purse \$1500; 3-minute trot or pace, \$300; 2.30 trot or pace, \$300; 2.20 trot or pace, \$300; 2.40 trot or pace, \$200; stallion trot or pace, \$300; farmers' trot or pace, \$70; farmers' green trot or pace, \$40.

RUNNING EVENTS.

¼-mile open dash, purse \$150; ¾-mile open, dash, \$200; 14½ pony race, \$100; 1½-mile, open, dash, \$200; ½-mile, open, \$150; ½-mile, open, \$150.

Manitoba Derby—1 1-16 mile dash, \$300; 1 mile handicap, dash, \$200; 1 mile novelty, consolation (dash), \$100; polo pony race.

OTHER EVENTS.

High jumping competition for horses—1st, \$20; 2nd, \$10. Best gentlemen's single turnout, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5. Gentlemen's two-horse turnout, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5. Fastest walking team to heavy wagon, 1st, \$8; 2nd, \$4; 3rd, \$3. Lady rider, cup, value \$20; 2nd, medal, value \$10.

Brandon Fair Speeding Events.

Three-minute trot or pace, purse, \$150; 2.30 trot or pace, \$175; pony race, \$100; polo pony race, 14½ hands or under, \$30; Gentlemen's road race to buggy, \$35; free-for-all trot or pace, \$250; 2.40 trot or pace, \$150; pony race, 14 hands or under, \$30; running race, open, \$100; farmer's running race, \$35; hurdle race, \$35; farmers' trot or pace, \$35; stallion race, trot or pace, \$200; running race, open, \$150; Indian pony race, \$7.

W. J. Lindsay, Killarney, has sold his running mare, Effie H., to W. Davis, Wawanesa.

This is what John Splan has to say about hoppers:—"They are unsightly to the public. To have a horse trained and raced in them depreciates his value 50 per cent. In my judgment 90 per cent. of the horses trained in hoppers could be trained to go much better without them. It would probably take a little more time, and perhaps more talent in the trainer, but the result would be so much more satisfactory, financially and otherwise, that the owners could afford to bide their time and pay the talent."

A syndicate of Winnipeg horsemen, among which is W. H. Barry, have purchased the brown pacing stallion Well-Ahead, with a mark of 2.14½, from parties in Des Moines, Iowa. Well-Ahead is by Wedgewood (692), 2.19, by Belmont, dam, Woodbine. His dam, Katie Isler, 2.22½, by Munsey, dam by Rebel. The horse got his mark last summer at Davenport, Iowa. It is the intention of the owners to use the horse for breeding purposes, and he will stand in Enright's barn, Winnipeg, until July 1. Later on he may be raced. The same syndicate has purchased two other green trotters, one a bay horse, and the other, a chestnut mare. They will be trained for the track.

Turf Notes.

The Souris Turf Club hold their seventh annual race meeting at Souris on Tuesday, June 7th.

The Lorne Agricultural Society will hold a race meeting at Prince Albert on July 1. Purses amounting to \$1000 will be given.

Charlton Bros., Portage la Prairie, have imported a carload of horses from Iowa, weighing from 1200 to 1500 lbs., which are all for sale.

Pilot Mound will have horse races on July 1. The programme is as follows:—Open trot, purse \$50; green trot, \$30; open run, \$50; pony, \$30.

W. L. McCracken, Broadview, Assa., has two thoroughbred horses in training for the Industrial races. His trainer expects a place for both of them.

Purses aggregating \$1000 will be given, including \$300 for a free-for-all trot and \$200 for a running race, at the Portage la Prairie summer fair. There will be nine events in all.

Seagram has again been successful in winning the Queen's Plate in Toronto. This is the eighth time in succession that this owner has carried off the honor of the classic races.

The Derby of '98 was won by Mr. J. W. Larnach's colt Jeddah; the Duke of Westminster's colt Batt second; Prince of Wales' colt Dunlop, third. The betting previous to the start was 100 to 1 against Jeddah, who won by three-quarters of a length.

The free-for-all race at the Winnipeg Industrial Fair will probably be the biggest turf event of many years on local tracks. The exhibition association gives \$700 and this has been supplemented by private subscriptions to the amount of \$800 or \$1000, and the complete purse will be between \$1500 and \$2000.

Mitchell Boy (2.294), imported by T. E. Kelly, of Brandon, is a handsome black horse and as the sire of Ecar Maid (2.244) has proved his quality as a getter of speed. He continues the blood of such good sires as George Wilkes, Alcalde and Mambrino Patchen and should prove a good addition to the standard bred trotters of the Province.

A farmer near Minnedosa has a cow which is foster mother to a litter of pigs.

Make up a club with your neighbors to buy a good beef bull if you can find one. They cost money now. Three years ago you could have had your choice for \$75, now \$200 fails to get a first-rate sire. But scrub calves are dear at any price. Raise good ones for profit.

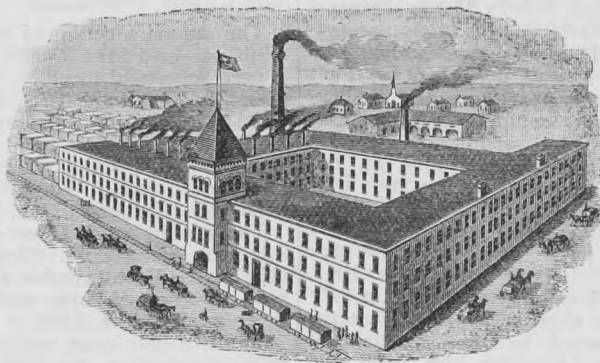
A few days ago a sow belonging to R. W. Biggar gave birth to a litter of 11 pigs, two of which have six well-formed feet. The two extra feet on both the little animals reach the ground, and apparently cause no inconvenience to them.—McGregor Herald.

The principle test of whether a sow is a good milker or not is the thrift of her pigs and her condition while suckling them. If they do well and she eats liberally and keeps up good health and digestion, and at the same time gets a little thin while nursing them, it is pretty good evidence that she is a good milker and will do to keep as long as her usefulness lasts. But look out for the sow that fattens between farrowing and weaning time. Her pigs either die off or become runts, for she is not making the use of her feed that a good mother should make.

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A gun that is known to be loaded rarely goes off and kills anybody. It is the gun that is supposed to be empty that does the deadly work. A bull known to be vicious rarely ever gets a chance to hurt anybody, as his owner is on the lookout for him, but it is the gentle bull that kills his master. Every little while we read of some man being killed by a bull that had been the pet of the family and had never been known to offer harm before.

W. A. Heubach, brother of F. W. Heubach, manager of the Industrial, who is ranching north of Qu'Appelle, recently passed through Winnipeg with a car load of cattle and horses. The horses were two Clydesdale stallions, and Bannerette, a thoroughbred. There were two choice Shorthorn heifers and several Shorthorn bulls. Mr. Heubach reports all classes of well-bred cattle as dear to buy, especially Shorthorn bulls, the supply not being at all adequate to the demand both from the States and Western Canada.

What will the Americans do with the cattle they are now buying here at such fancy prices? J. B. Power, whose views on stock feeding have lately appeared in The Farmer, says that the great wheat farmers in Southern Dakota are now sowing large areas of corn, on which they will winter-feed, after pasturing them at a nominal price all summer. One man will put in a whole section, and many others are going freely in the same direction. The bonanza is now on beef as much as it ever was on wheat. Manitoba should take the hint in time and go more into corn.

Just how sheep breeding may be made to pay on dear land in the old country may be learned from a recent report by John Clay, of Kerchesters, father of the senior partner of the great live stock firm of Clay & Robinson, Chicago. Out of 560 ewes on one farm he had 400 pairs of twins, and each of these will sell at five months' old for from \$5 to \$6 each. The breed is border Leicester, the rent-paying sheep of South Scotland and Northern England. This has been a year for poorer lamb yield in Britain than for years past. In good years triplets are abundant with Leicesters.



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ARKELL'S DRUG STORE
CARBERRY.

Among the Breeders.

P. Cram, Pilot Mound, has purchased a thoroughbred Hereford bull to head his herd.

A. J. McArthur has taken a carload of thoroughbred cattle into the Innisfail, Alta., district.

K. McLeod, of Longburn, has lately added to his stock a dark red registered Shorthorn bull—a promising looking young beast.

George Rankin, Hamiota, has sold five young bulls by Royal Scot. Four of these went to Jas. Wilson, Macleod, Alta., and one to W. Leask, Virden.

Jacob Scott, Jr., Stonewall has imported from R. Harper, Norval, Ont., a yearling Jersey bull, Duke of Stonewall, by Sir Clive (33893), dam Irene Sibley 2nd.

Our representative was recently shown a splendid Berkshire sow imported from Ontario by R. Mackenzie, of High Bluff. This is an animal which will, no doubt, be heard of in the show ring.

F. W. Brown, Portage la Prairie, has sold to Jas. Gardner, Cypress River, the Shorthorn bull calf, Chief Neva, by Lyndhurst 3d, dam Variety 5th, 1st prize 2-year-old at the Industrial in 1896.

Alex. Henderson, who gathered up all the best prizes for Shires at the London, Eng., stallion show, has since been equally successful in politics. He has been elected Unionist member for West Staffordshire.

Wm. Hughes, brother of Jos. Hughes, a prominent rancher of the Moose Jaw district, was found dead on the prairie. He had left his brother's several days previously to locate a new ranch. Heart disease was the supposed cause of death.

Along with the last car from Ontario, Steele Bros., Glenboro, brought from R. G. Steacy, Brockville, Ont., a yearling bull, Perfection of Maple Grove, by imp. Carlyle of Lesnessock, and a heifer calf, Lady Diana 2d, out of Lady Diana (imp.)

Mr. Fisher, of Macdonald, has purchased a fine 2-year-old Shorthorn bull from the well-known herd of J. G. Barron, of Carberry. This bull is a son of Topsman, the 1st prize bull at the last year's Industrial and should prove a decided acquisition to his district.

The American Hereford men, stimulated, no doubt, by the fancy figures lately got for good animals of the breed, are now importing freely from England. Mr. Armour, of Kansas, has now 50 head in quarantine, and the White Star steamship Tauric brought 80 more.

R. R. Taylor, Middlechurch, has just bought from R. D. Foley & Son, Manitou, a very promising yearling, son of "The Korker," 1st prize bull in a large and good class at the Winnipeg Industrial of 1896. This youngster has in him the making of a good farmer's bull.

J. M. Gardhouse, Highfield, Ont., who judged the heavy horse classes at last Winnipeg Industrial, recently purchased a car of Shorthorn bulls for W. A. Heubach, of Touchwood Hills, Assa. The latter made Mr. Gardhouse a good offer for his Shire colt, Fitzsimmons (270), which weighed 1220 lbs. at 12 months.

J. A. Fraser, Portage la Prairie, recently showed our reporter his thirteen months' old Shorthorn bull. He was brought from Ontario by F. W. Brown, having been purchased this spring at the stock sale of the well known breeder, James Hunter, of Alma. He weighs about 1050 lbs. and is a very nice animal.

Kathletta's Fancy, a highly pedigreed 9-year-old Jersey, is reported by the Breeders' Gazette to have made the average of 15 quarts a day of milk for two full years continuously. She has made up to 17½ lbs. butter in one week.

Jas. Glennie, Orange Ridge, writes:—"Stop my ad. in The Farmer. A man all the way from Lethbridge wants to buy two cows for milk, but I have none to sell. If I can get a fair chance I shall show Daisy Teake's Queen at the Industrial. She has been ten months in milk and can still show what a good cow can do."

The Western Stock Growers' Association, at its recent meeting, fixed the scale of compensation for animals killed on railways, as follows: Steer, 4 years and upwards, \$40. 3 years, \$35; 2 years, \$22; yearlings, \$18; cows, 5 years and upwards, \$30; horses, \$60; thoroughbreds, \$100. The C. P. R. has agreed to pay half the value of animals killed.

There are symptoms of a little revival in the breeding of horses. Treherne district reports the Rathwell Syndicate still retain the unbeaten Shire stallion, Blacksmith; McNab's Heir, owned by A. J. Moore, of Norquay, represents the top notch in pure Clydesdale blood; W. McCreary is handling his trotting stallion, Young Sharper, and Jas. Thompson has another fancy horse, Allemaigne.

S. L. Head disposed of four head of pedigreed Ayrshire cattle to the Hon. Thos. Greenway this week, consisting of one bull and three females. The bull is the only imported one in the province, and has won the sweepstakes at a number of provincial fairs. They were shipped on Tuesday to Burnside, from which point some more stock is being shipped to the Premier's farm at Crystal City. — Rapid City Spectator.

J. A. S. Macmillan, of Brandon, has brought up another choice Clydesdale stallion from N. P. Clark, of St. Cloud, Minnesota, to replace Ross McGregor. The new arrival is the prize-winning Burnbrae, winner of first prize in his class at the big Chicago horse show last year, and also at the Minnesota State fair. Burnbrae's sire was Rosewood and his dam Young Bloom. He will stand at Kelly's stable, Brandon, for the season.

One of the most successful sales of Hackney horses ever held in Scotland was conducted the last week in April by Alex. Morton, of Gowanbank. The top price of the sale, viz.: \$2,000, was given for the pony mare Echo. The harness horses and brood mares met with a very buoyant demand. The gelding Grenadier brought \$1,150 and the mare Delight \$650. The brood mare Lady Nonabel fetched \$600. The 54 head sold averaged \$375.

Andrew Mutter, the Brandon dairyman, and Ayrshire breeder, recently got a rib broken while leading his gentle bull to water. The animal suddenly became excited and in tossing its head around knocked Mr. Mutter over. As soon as the animal saw him lying on the ground he began to paw him around, afterwards using Mr. Mutter rather rough with his horns. Two Germans were passing, and hearing Mr. Mutter' cries for help, went and drove the infuriated beast off.

H. F. Brown, of Minneapolis, held a very successful sale of Shorthorns on May 10th. The majority of them were females, and some very handsome figures were made. Wild Eyes 22d, a 2-year-old, made \$600, and Wild Eyes 23d, a yearling, \$457. Another 2-year-old made 500, and Louan of Browndale, 9 years old, well-known in the show ring, made \$500. Sweepstakes, an 18-months-old bull, made \$300. This

is an annual sale, and the stock is well-known in the State show rings.

Among the pleasures of a trip through the Portage Plains of one of The Farmer staff was a visit to the home of Jas. Bray, of Longburn. The beauty of the premises need not be mentioned to those who have noticed the photo in our April number, taken by us last fall. We found Mr. Bray a thorough good entertainer, even though his better half has gone on a trip to Ontario. Looking through his pens, showed his stock of Yorkshires to be in good shape and quite up to the mark.

J. E. Marples, Deleau, Man., writes:—"I have lately improved my herd of Herefords by the addition of seven new cows and heifers, some of which I selected while down east last winter from the celebrated Ingleside and Guelph Herefords. A particularly good one from the Ingleside herd is the 2-year-old heifer Daisy of Ingleside (68704), winning first in her class at all the big eastern shows, and also being one of the first prize herd at the same shows. My thoroughbreds now number about 40."

The directors of the Brandon summer fair are doing their best to make it in every way a success. They are to have a horse stable 150 feet long and 62 feet wide. A cattle barn, 50x50, also a new dairy building of the latest style. The plans and specifications were drawn up under the supervision of C. C. Macdonald, dairy inspector of Winnipeg. New offices are also to be erected at the gate. A difficulty still exists about the proper housing of visitors, and it is understood the city hall will be utilized in that direction.

The Yorkton Enterprise says:—"The train of Sunday brought in three head of pure bred Shorthorns, two cows and a bull calf, for Peaker Bros. The cows are of the Cruickshanks breed, one a daughter of the famous Ontario stock bull Indian Chief, and the other closely allied to Barmpton Hero, another showyard champion. The bull calf is a pure white, and sired by Gravesend Heir 2nd, the successive sweepstakes winner at Winnipeg, and owns as its mother, Missie of Neidpath, closely related to the bull, Marquis of Neidpath, which Wm. Patterson, Devil's Lake, purchased at a high figure from the Binscarth stock farm." The cattle referred to were from the herd of W. S. Lister, Middlechurch.

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Answers to Questions.

By an Experienced Veterinarian.

As it is desired to make this column as interesting and valuable as possible to subscribers, advice is given in it free in answer to questions on veterinary matters. Enquiries must in all cases be accompanied by the name and address of the subscriber, but the name will not be published if so desired. Free answers are only given in our columns. Persons requiring answers sent them privately by mail must enclose a fee of \$1.50. All enquiries must be plainly written, and symptoms clearly but briefly set forth.

Barrenness.

P. M., Lamerton, Alta., writes:—"Will you kindly advise me through the columns of the Nor'-West Farmer, what can be done to get a mare, of 12 years of age, in foal. The animal has been served (three years ago) but did not prove in foal. She was served two years in succession, but failed to catch. I have been recommended to get an article, called an impregnator, but do not know where to purchase one, or if it would possibly prove of any use in the case, when got. Please let me know your views in the case."

Answer.—As you do not mention a single symptom that might give a clue to the cause of the trouble, I can only deal with barrenness in a general way and leave you to select the course of treatment you think most appropriate to this particular case. Professor Law enumerates the following causes of barrenness:—(a) Imperfect development of the ovary and non-maturation of ova; (b) Cystic and other tumors of the ovary; (c) Fatty degeneration of the ovary in very obese, pampered mares; (d) Fatty degeneration of the excretory tubes of the ovaries (fallopian tubes); (e) Catarrh of the womb with muco-purulent discharge; (f) Irritable condition of the womb with profuse secretion, straining and ejection of the semen; (g) Nervous irritability, leading to the same expulsion of the male element; (h) High condition (plethora) with profuse secretion and excitement; (i) Low condition with imperfect maturation of the ovum and lack of sexual desire; (j) Poor feeding, overwork, and chronic debilitating diseases, as leading to the condition just named; (k) Closure of the neck of the womb temporarily by spasm, or permanently by inflammation or induration; (l) Closure of the entrance to the vagina through imperforate hymen, a rare though not unknown condition in the mare; (m) Acquired indisposition to breed, seen in old, hard worked mares, which are first put to the stallion when aged; (n) Change of climate has been repeatedly followed by barrenness; (o) hybridity, which in male and female alike usually entails sterility." The impregnator is a small rubber contrivance for dilating the neck of the womb and is only useful in the cases comprised under the heading (k); but this condition of closure of the neck of the womb, if merely spasmodic, and not caused by disease may be rectified by careful dilation with the fingers. The hand and anus are smeared with oil or vaseline, the fingers drawn together into a cone shape and carefully introduced. The projecting, rounded neck of the womb is felt when the arm has passed in about as far as the elbow. One finger at a time should gradually be pressed into it until the cav-

ity of the womb can be felt. This should be done gently but firmly with a rotary motion of the hand, avoiding violence, which might tear the parts, as any laceration would tend to prevent the object in view, impregnation, from taking place.

Of the other causes enumerated, some are incurable, others amenable only to surgical operations, and some will themselves suggest the appropriate line of treatment. Fatty degeneration is combated by an albuminoid diet (wheat, bran, oats), and constant, well regulated work; starchy, saccharine and fatty foods should be avoided (wheat, corn, potatoes). "An irritable womb, with frequent straining and the ejection of a profuse secretion, may sometimes be corrected by a restricted diet and full but well regulated work. Even fatigue will act beneficially in some cases, hence the practice of the Arab riding his mare to exhaustion just before service. The perspiration in such a case, like the action of a purgative or the abstraction of blood just before service, benefits, by rendering the blood vessels less full, by lessening secretion in the womb and elsewhere, and thus counteracting the tendency to the ejection and loss of semen. If these means are ineffectual a full dose of camphor (two drachms), or of salacin may at times assist."

Indigestion.

Anglo-Saxon, Ridgeway:—"Will you kindly tell me through the Farmer what to do for a calf, six weeks old, has no appetite, but after each feed tries to kick her stomach. Will a tonic do her any good? What is the trouble?"

Answer.—If the calf is sucking the cow, examine the udder and milk and if you find anything wrong with either, feed the calf by hand and boil the milk. If the calf is already hand-fed, consider your methods and see whether you are doing anything likely to cause indigestion, such as feeding stale milk, or milk turning sour, giving milk without warming it, feeding at long intervals and then in large quantities, etc. Try the following prescription:—Carbonate of ammonia, 10 grains; powdered ginger, half a drachm; powdered gentian, one drachm. Mix. To be given three times a day, in half a pint of water.

Pans of charcoal set on the shelves, ledges or floor of a damp cellar which can not be thoroughly ventilated, will make the air pure and sweet. If a large basketful of the charcoal be placed in such a cellar where milk is kept there will be little danger of its becoming tainted.

Lack of deference to elder relatives is one of the distinguishing marks of the nineteenth century. The strength of family ties depends on a multitude of little things—little kindnesses and so forth. As for poor relations—well, the great idea is to keep them out of the way as much as possible. They certainly are not given the seat of honor at the board. I think it is Carlyle who tells the story of a famous man with a somewhat haughty disposition, who, at table, used to show his appreciation of his guests by the words he employed in asking them to take meat. To the peer he would say, most graciously, "Will your lordship take a little beef?" to the ordinary commoner, "A little beef, Mr. So-and-So?" but to the poor relation the word "beef?" gruffly uttered, was all that the great man would vouchsafe. This may be taken as a sample of what the poor relation generally has to put up with. In his case "family ties" may be convenient, but they are certainly not comforting.—An Old Bachelor.

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A Lesson in Butter.

A little maid in the morning sun
 Stood merrily singing and churning—
 "Oh, how I wish this butter was done,
 Then off to the fields I'd be turning!"
 So she hurried the dasher up and down,
 Till the farmer called with half-made frown,

"Churn slowly!"

"Don't ply the churn so fast, my dear,
 It is not good for the butter,
 And will make your arms ache, too. I
 fear,

And puts you all in a flutter;
 For this is a rule wherever we turn,
 Don't be in a haste whenever you churn—
 "Churn slowly!"

"If you want your butter both nice and
 sweet,

Don't churn with nervous jerking,
 But ply the dasher slowly and neat,
 You'll hardly know that you're work-
 ing;

And when the butter has come you'll say,
 'Yes, surely, this is the better way.'
 "Churn slowly!"

Now, all you folks, do you think that you
 A lesson can find in butter?

Don't be in haste, whatever you do,
 Or get yourself in a flutter;
 And when you stand at life's great churn
 Let the farmer's words to you return—
 "Churn slowly!"

Home Dairying in Sweden.

By Oscar Anderson, Student of the Mani-
 toba Dairy School.

It is not a very long time ago, since this trade so important, not only for private persons, but also for the whole community, was established. Let us only look backward about 12 or 15 years, and we find that this trade now flourishing, was then hidden in a mist for many persons, and that there were very few indeed, at least among the small farmers, who devoted any time to it. A person might hear of creameries, but such were then only established on the estates of gentlemen, where butter and cheese were manufactured for export. And the milk out of which those products were made was only taken from their own herds. Like here, the farmers were satisfied to break up the soil into fallows, hoping to gain independence from the harvest. To begin with, their labor seemed to recompense them, for soon instead of swamps and woody hills, fields abounding with waving sheaves appeared, and when the fall came, and harvest was finished, and threshing over, they could see a great deal of their crops sold, it not being necessary to keep all for themselves, and because the price of grain was very high, the recompense for their labor was very satisfactory. But some farms consisted only of woodland with poor soil, not good for cultivation. Their owners devoted more time to the raising of cattle, which when full grown were sold at a high price to be shipped to different foreign countries. But after some years, a sharp competition with foreign countries, especially America, arose, for when the plough be-

gan to break up the endless fertile prairies of America and Canada, and as land was cheap and not taxed, the farmers were enabled to sell their products much cheaper, on account of which the shipping of their products to England became larger from year to year. The result of this was, that farmers in Sweden could not ship more cattle, unless at exceedingly low prices, and their future prospects grew darker and darker.

What was now to be done? By and by some people began to think how to get out of this trouble, and this was to keep both grain and cattle. The milk was before worthless, because the farmers did not understand how to handle it. In order to gain its full value, the matter was fully considered. The first persons who took this matter into consideration were the Associations of Economy; the only ones who tried to further its progress. The above mentioned association began to publish small pamphlets on creamery management. Now, some creameries for storekeepers were erected in a couple of places, and to these creameries the farmers brought their milk. Other farmers tried the gravity system, and the skim milk was used for feeding calves and hogs.

Now, the beginning was made, and when the separator was invented, home dairies as well as creameries were running with good success. The farmers having 12 or 15 cows could both separate, churn and sell their own products. Some farmers only separated the milk and sold the cream to some factory, because if it was far away, it was easier to convey than milk. Farmers not owning so many cows to make it profitable for them to use separators, used the method of deep setting cans or shallow pans, which brought about good results. When carefully attended to, this method was the cheapest and simplest, and as there were plenty of springs with fresh cold water continuously flowing, everybody could take advantage of this.

And so home dairying arose. Now in order to look more clearly into our subject, let us take a careful look over our farm. In order to know first what sort of a man the farmer is, let us pay a visit to the stable, and we will soon find out who the owner is. The stable has room for 15 or 20 cows as a rule. It is built of timber, brick or granite, and is very warm, large and light. Right through the stable is a long passage with a door opposite. In the centre of the stable is a large feed table about five or six feet wide and 1½ feet high. In more modern stables there is a water connection at the side of the feed tables. Fresh and pure water is pumped into this water conductor twice a day, the water being let off after a while. On both sides of the feed table there are stalls for each cow, where they are tied, so that they can easily reach the feed on the table. The feed, which used to consist of straw, clover, timothy and hay, is distributed three times a day, six o'clock in the morning, one in the afternoon, and seven o'clock in the evening. In many places cows are also fed at 10 o'clock a.m. and then they are fed with coarse oats, which we in Sweden call "grape"—Dog Colts, which is given to them dry in boxes. This feed was in winter often mixed with some artificial substance of bone, which has proven to be good and nourishing. Every morning, before cows are milked, they are brushed and cleaned. The floor is of wood, cement or stone, and always kept dry. Below the cows dry straw is spread, so that the stalls are dry and clean. The ceiling consisting of boards, and the walls are swept and cleaned well from cobwebs and other stuff. The management of the stable is controlled by

the farmer himself, or by any special reliable person. In most cases girls do the milking. It is very seldom that the men milk. Cows are milked at seven o'clock a.m. and seven o'clock p.m., but a fresh cow is milked three times a day. After milking, milk is strained and put into cans. All cleanliness is observed when milking, and when all cows are milked. Milk is now conveyed to the milk house or to the factory. The milk house being built over a spring well with fresh water, is very neat and clean, and so preserved that flies and dust, etc., cannot get into it. Within the house is a box of stone or cement, about 1½ feet deep, always filled with fresh clear water, for if the box be filled with new water, the old must run off. Now the milk is put into cans two feet deep with a diameter of eight or ten inches. These cans are then filled with milk about three-parts full. Then they are put in the box, and a fine net is spread over them, in order to protect them from dust. Here the milk is kept until next morning, when it is conveyed to the factory, this being the daily rule. If, on the contrary, the farmers themselves manufacture the butter, milk is, as a rule, left for 40 to 48 hours, when it is skimmed, and the cream is held in cold water for 12 or 15 hours before churning. Often cream is churned immediately, when it has reached the temperature required for churning. Then the butter is salted and packed either in tubs or in packages, weighing from half to one kilogram—2.2 English pounds, depending whether it be sold for export or to customers. I can hardly tell how the butter was worked and salted, for, in most cases, the wives of the farmers had their own methods of preparing butter, and it was not worth while to tell a farmer's wife how to work butter, she would tell you that she made good butter before she saw you, so that it was best to let her alone to take care of the butter making. But when the butter came on the tables, every one must give her recommendation that she knew how to make good butter.

Now, we have only spoken of the careful farmers. But there are a number of persons who do not yet understand the advantage of being like other people, for they often say that what has been right for their forefathers is all right for them too. It is a good thing, however, that these persons are few in number, for most farmers have found out that the dairy trade gives the best recompense to their work. The creameries run both winter and summer, and it happens that creameries receive more milk during the winter than in the summer time, and the farmers take good care of their cattle all the year round. When in the fall the frost comes, the herd is not let out, but fed in the stable. The stable feeding begins in October, and lasts until May or June, before the cattle are let out in the pasture. This is the usual practice in the southern part of Sweden. Now I will mention a few words on home dairying in the north part of Sweden. These hints come from a friend of mine, who has lived in that part of the country, and I fully rely on his information. In the north of Sweden there is not very much agriculture. On the banks of the rivers and lakes the people had settled down in large villages, often 200 or 300 farmers in the same village. There is consequently not much room left for the farmers to cultivate the soil, only a strip of ground left for house, stables and garden, where they can raise potatoes, greens, and sometimes a little barley and rye, if the place allows that. In winter time the men are working in the forests, and in summer at the saw-mills. The men leave home and the women and children take care of the cattle. Each farmer has about 15 or 20 cows, 20 or 30 goats,

and five to eight horses and sheep; some have more. For the herd winter feed must be provided, and it happens that they must drive many miles in the forests in order to mow grass. This is put up in stacks and brought home in the winter time. In March they begin to make what in Sweden is called "tight milk," which is used during the whole summer, while the cows are away from home. This milk is made in the following manner, right after milking:—Milk is first well strained, and put into big copper cans, holding 12 or 16 gallons, and boiled for one hour, and well stirred. But milk will be better if boiled a longer time. Then the milk is put in wooden tubs holding 10 or 12 gallons each, to cool off. When milk is at 90 degrees F. the extract is strained and set aside for 24 hours, when it is taken and stirred and put into a tank holding sometimes from 100 to 150 gallons, in order to be kept there. The milk is now slimy, and can be drawn out like syrup or chewing gum, but the milk can be preserved the whole year without being sour. If you want milk to be good and not to sour easily, be sure to take fresh new milk. This milk can be made out of skim milk, but then it will not last so long a time. Now they have made a sufficient quantity of milk for the whole summer, while the cows are out. The extract for this milk is made from a plant, which I forget the name of. It looks like a hollow straw, and bent like a ring, it is laid on the bottom of a dipper; new milk is strained over this plant, which is now set aside for 24 hours. Many gallons of milk can be made from this extract, and then repeat the process as mentioned above. At the end of May or the beginning of June the herd is let out, and driven often 15 or 20 miles into the forest where the farmers have built a big stable for the cows, and a dwelling house for the caretakers of the herd, and one magazine in which to preserve the cheese and butter. These houses in Sweden are called "Sater" or "Fabodar." They are very often situated 12 or 15, sometimes 20 miles from the village, in the wild forests, and frequently 15 or 20 such houses are built on the same place. When the herd is let out, two girls from the farm go with them to the forest in order to take care of the herd and make butter and cheese. These domiciles or Sater in the forest are kept clean and nice. At four o'clock in the morning the girls rise, milk the cows and goats, and strain the milk. Then breakfast is prepared, and the herd is let out, while one of the girls goes with them. The other girl stays at home and takes care of the milk.

When the day's work is over, the girls are busy with sewing and other kinds of ladies' work. I do not need to say that the girls are both jolly and roguish, when they dare to live away from human beings in the wild forests, and often not seeing anybody for many days. But often it happens some Saturday evenings, that a son of the earth takes a walk in the forests just as if he were seeking some treasure, and quite suddenly he finds his treasure, sitting outside the house, singing, in the clear, calm summer evening, her songs being answered by a thousand winged singers in the tops of the tall pine trees. Once a month it is customary for the young people having left home to go out to their friends to encourage them, and now there is life and joy in the distant hut in the forest. To the tunes of the fiddle, and the lively talk of the girls, the beautiful summer night passes away very fast in circling dances. So the summer passes away, and the fall comes in its place. The herd is driven home to the village. The girls come home, too, bringing with them carloads of butter, cheese, in Sweden called "Mes ost." Be-

sides this, the girls have lots of other work manufactured by themselves during the summer.

The butter and cheese are sold or used in the homes during winter. But lots of butter and cheese is asked for at the large metal works and saw-mills situated in the neighborhood. Northern Sweden is not to be compared, however, as a country exclusively devoted and adapted for the dairy industry. But I think that every effort is made in order to further the progress of culture.

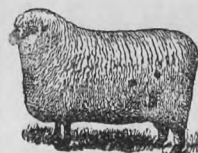
Small vs. Large Cows.

Professor Brandt, of Germany, conducted three experiments with light and heavy dairy cows, each lasting four weeks, the second commencing seventy days after the close of the first, and the third a year after the beginning of the first. Thirty of the heaviest milkers in the herd were separated into lots of fifteen cows each according to live weight. The cows were kept under similar conditions as to feed and care during the trial, none being bred after the beginning of the experiment. The average weight of the heavy cows was 1,205 pounds, and of light cows 979 pounds. The leading conclusions from the experiments are:—

1. The milk of the small cows is richer in fat than that of the large ones.
2. Large cows eat a greater amount of feed than small cows; per thousand pounds live weight they eat less.
3. Small cows produce less milk than large cows, absolutely and relatively.
4. When in thin flesh small cows may produce more per thousand pounds live weight than large cows.
5. Large farrow cows are more persistent milkers; on the other hand, small cows show a greater tendency to fatten on the same feed, with a decrease in the milk flow.
6. The loss in selling ten of the large cows amounted to five guilden per head on the average, after having been kept nearly a year, while the loss for ten small cows was twelve guilden per head.—Feeds and Feeding.

First Principles in Butter-making

Butter is finished in the dairy, but not made there. The stamp of the dairywoman puts the gold in market form; but the work must be commenced in the field or in the feeding stables; and this leads at once to the consideration of feeding for butter. During the early, sunny summer months, when nature is profuse of favors, there is little to be done beyond accepting her bounty. The tender grasses are full of the needed nutrition, and they afford the constant supply of moisture without which the secretion of milk is greatly lessened. Yet, at this season, as well as all others, a pure supply of water is absolutely necessary. It does not meet the requirement if cattle have a wet hole full of surface drainage in the pasture, or a frog pond. While it is not probable that the tadpoles and wrigglers sometimes found in city milk have been drunk by thirsty cows, many infusions do exist in such pools that are hardly eliminated or rendered entirely harmless by the wonderful milk secretions of the animal. The cattle should drink from spring-fed boxes or troughs; and, as often as these, under the hot sun, are seen to produce green growth or floating scum a pail of coarse salt may be put in and the current checked until the fresh water growths are killed; the salt water is then drawn off, and for a long time the trough will remain pure and the water bright



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Milk Secretion.

By Professor H. H. Dean.

In order to make a success of dairying or of anything else, we need to combine science and practice. The purely theoretical man is not a successful man, in the highest sense of the word; the purely practical man is not a successful man in the highest sense of the word, and I have yet to see the man who is not more or less theoretical. There are some men who pooh-pooh science and theory, and yet you talk to these men for some time and you will perhaps find there the most theoretical man you ever saw. My talk this afternoon is a combination of theory and practice, namely: how milk is secreted by the cow and what points should be observed in the milking of the cow. You will agree with me that the first part is largely theoretical. We cannot look into the inside of the cow and see how the milk is secreted; we must speculate as to how, in all probability, she makes the milk. No building can be a successful building without a good foundation, and the best practical results are based on the best science. In order to milk cows successfully, and in order to make the most money out of our cows, we ought to know a little about the theory as to how the milk is made.

Milk is a secretion of the mammary glands. Let us see if we can understand that. We all know that under certain conditions our mouths begin to water. Why do our mouths begin to water? In the cheek are situated glands known as the salivary glands. (Saliva is simply a refined expression for spit.) When you are real hungry and smell meat frying, or potatoes cooking, or pie in the oven, the fact of smelling that excites these glands and they begin to throw out or secrete saliva or spit; and the cow's udder is built on the same principle as the glands in our own cheeks. You must excite these glands in some way or other before they begin to produce milk or make milk. Now, there is a special condition under which these glands are excited to produce milk, and there are what we might call continual causes of excitement. For instance, when you first take hold of a cow's teat, there is a little milk in the cow's udder, but that act of touching the cow's teat stimulates or excites the glands to produce more milk and you can never excite the cow to produce milk with a pitch-fork or a milking stool. Such treatment does not excite the glands but excites other parts, and does very much to check the secretion of milk. It is one essential, in order to get the most milk from the cow, that this simple operation shall be done in a manner pleasing to the cow, because the giving of milk is an act of affection, and some smart Yankee has put it, "If you want to get the most milk from a cow, you must, as it were, become her calf, and any man or woman who is not willing to become the calf of the cow, and make her feel towards you as she would to her calf, will never get the best results from that cow." That is a theoretical statement and it is borne out by practical facts. You must become her calf. Why? Because by so doing you stimulate these glands to produce milk.

The first milk the cow gives after parturition, known as colostrum, should never be used for cheese making or butter making, and very often cheese-makers have considerable trouble in the spring from the fact that people will send this colostrum to the factory and it should not be done because it is not true milk. Not until the eighth or ninth milking does this colostrum change into ordinary milk. This first milk has a very large percent-

age of albumen, or sticky, yellowish matter, which is of no value for cheese making. This albumen does not ripen, it simply rots and decomposes in the cheese, and a common cause of bad flavored cheese in the spring is this albumen which is secreted by the cow the first four or five days. Every patron ought to have this fact impressed upon his mind.

The next point is, what light can we get upon the actual operation going on in the cow's udder, or bag, as most people say. There are two theories to explain how the milk is secreted. One theory is known as the transudation—which simply means oozing through. That theory is based on this statement, that the blood, as it circulates from the heart, is carried back to the udder, and the udder has the power of filtering out from the blood the material required for milk; or, in other words, milk is simply filtered blood. The main objection to that theory is that the blood and the milk are not of the same composition. If milk were simply a filtering from the blood, then the milk and blood ought to be of similar composition.

The other theory is what is known as the metamorphic; that simply means a change of form. It assumes that a cow in the act of giving milk changes the cells, of which the udder is composed. Dr. Connel said this morning that the bacterium was composed of a single cell. A cow's udder is composed of thousands and thousands of cells, and the udder itself is made up of a number of cells, and the metamorphic theory says that the milk is simply a change of cells in the udder. That theory cannot be correct for this reason. The cow that won the first prize at the Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show gave 85 pounds of milk in a day, and I think it would be fair to assume that this cow's udder did not weigh more than 20 pounds. What does this mean? It means that a cow giving 85 pounds of milk a day would need to renew or build up the whole of that udder four times in the day, which is practically impossible. Therefore, the metamorphic theory cannot be correct.

But as far as we know to-day, the probabilities are that the water, and possibly some of the other constituents in the milk are largely filtered from the blood and that the fat in the milk is a growth of the cells. The casein and some other parts are the result of cell activity. We can understand the best if we put before our minds a picture of the cow's udder. It is made up of bunches of grapes packed together. Now every bunch of grapes has a number of single grapes on it, and inside of each grape is the part which we eat, and then inside of that is the seed. Now the seed part we may represent as the cell, and leading out from these grapes are little ducts or canals or openings. There are thousands of these in the cow's udder, and as these cells grow they change into the butter fat which rolls off into these little ducts, and by and by comes out into the teat as little particles of butter fat which float off into the water or liquid part and travel down, coming out at the lower end or opening at the teat. That explains why the last milk is richer than the first milk which we get from the cow. As these particles of fat grow in the cow's udder, they are held back by the sides of the cells or ducts, and do not get down to the opening so soon as the liquid part. So we will remember, that in all probability, part of the milk is made by being filtered by the blood; part is made by growth of the cells which make up the cow's udder, and in these operations we have the theoretical explanation of how the milk is secreted.

There is a theory which has come out recently, known as the ferment theory.

Some German scientists argue that milk is the result of a ferment in the cow's udder.

There is a fact in this connection I would like to emphasize, namely, that milk is made up of 87½ parts in 100 of water. That is, in every 100 pounds of milk there are about 87½ pounds of water. Where does that come from? Out of the food which the cow eats, and out of the water she drinks, and unless the water and food are pure, the milk will have more or less impurities in it. Why? Because such a large proportion of the milk is made up from the water, and the water comes from the food she eats or the water she drinks. Only pure food and water should be given to the dairy cow. We need to remember this fact also, that the milk is largely made during the time of milking.

A cow giving a large quantity of milk has been slaughtered and every drop of milk has been gathered up and the largest amount ever found was about four quarts; hence milk is largely made during the time of milking, and the cow must be placed under favorable conditions at the time, or you do not get the regular quantity of milk. Do I not think that the milk is already there, and all you have to do is to draw it out. Only a small portion is in this state. Most of it is there ready to be changed into milk, but it is not milk, and we must have things favorable for the cow to make this change.

We have demonstrated during the past season, that the power to give milk does not cease with the death of the cow. We had occasion to slaughter a cow giving a large quantity of milk. We cut the udder off and then took one of the teats and you could milk it just the same as if it was attached to the cow. I do not say you could get as much milk, but the power to get the milk from the cow did not cease with the death of the animal. The milk already formed there could be drawn after the udder was cut off completely from the cow. What do we learn from that? That the holding back of the milk already formed is not within the power of the cow. We hear people talk of the cow holding up her milk; she can only hold up a certain part of the milk. The small quantity formed there may be drawn because the opening at the end of the teat is closed by a muscle, and when you press on the teat you cause that muscle to relax and the milk flows out; but the cow has the power to hold back any milk that is not formed.

I have noticed that in connection with the milking machine, that cows take kindly to it, but some do not. I have seen the rubber put on and the machine started to work, and just a little milk came, and I have frequently gone up and scratched the cow gently on the hip or the side, to take her attention from the machine, and the milk would begin to flow. So, you see, the cow has control of certain parts of the milk. She has power to hold it back and you can not get it from her. We know that some cows will not give down their milk to some milkers.

The yellow color of milk is due to a substance called Lactochrome. Sometimes the food imparts this yellow coloring matter to the milk, and it is one of the fine questions in breeding and feeding dairy cattle to-day, this question of coloring.

Now, as regards the odor of milk. Some people talk about a cowy odor. I hold that all milk, when drawn from the cow, has a natural or cowy odor. You may call it a cowy odor or anything you like, but there is a natural odor to milk. If we say we do not like this cowy odor, we say we do not like milk, because all milk drawn from any cow has a certain turnipy odor, or a silage odor, or a stable natural odor. Sometimes milk has a

odor. Whence comes these odors? That is one of the questions which scientific men have not been able to thoroughly solve.

I wish to speak of another fact, namely: the viscosity or stickiness of milk. This no doubt, is the reason why milk is so hard to separate in the winter time, as there are many cows that have been milking five or six months. Their milk is viscous or sticky in quality or character, and the heating of the milk makes it less viscous and more fluid in character, and the particles of butter fat, which are held in suspension are more easily separated when the milk is warmed.

We will come now to the practical part of milking. In the first place, cows should be milked in a clean stable. That is an old story, I know. One of the boys on the train said he had been to a dairy convention every year for the last four or five years, and had heard these things so often he thought he knew everything that was going to be said. This is a characteristic of a young Canadian. They want something they never heard before. But I tell you we do not need new things so much as we need to put into practice the things we already know, and we can only get these things put into practice by repeating them, time after time, day after day, and year after year, until it becomes part of the nature of dairymen. No man can successfully put into practice anything which is not part of his nature. For instance, no man can be a successful feeder of cows unless he is wrapt up in cows, loves cows, and takes an interest in them until they become part of himself. And no man can keep a clean cheese factory, or creamery, or milk cows in a cleanly manner, unless cleanliness becomes part of his very nature.

When we put cows into a stable we take a pair of horse clippers and cut the hair from the hind quarters, starting at the stifle and then going up around the sides of the cow to the pin bone. We then cut the long hair off the udder; then have some man take hold of the cow's tail and take the clippers and run up the tail and cut all the hair off, and then when you have got that done take hold of the cow's tail above the bone and take a pair of sheep shears or a jack knife and cut off the switch. This was given to cows to keep flies off in the summer time; but she has no use for it in the winter. She will knock it round your face sometime when it is covered with dirt. I doubt if you have enough christianity to take that quietly and say nothing. That is one of the first steps in getting clean milk, and it does not take very much time to do it.

The cow should be milked out quickly and be milked clean. It is the nature of the cow to give milk rapidly, and any person who takes a long time to milk will never get as much milk as the one who milks fast. Milk the cow out clean, because if you do not take all the milk from her, she comes to the conclusion that there is no use bothering to make more milk, because the milker does not want it, and by and by that cow will dry up. You want to make her believe that you are after every drop of milk, and if there is any sympathy between you and the cow you will get it.

So far as our experience goes in the use of milking machines they have not been successful. The milk becomes tainted, and the expense of operating does not pay for the labor saved. I have found that the pipes in the Thistle machine, through which the air is carried, contain milk which is decomposed.

Any man who keeps cows to-day and does not know what each cow is doing, in quality as well as quantity, is certainly not milking his cows properly, as a milk record is a necessary part of milking.

There should be a record kept of each cow's milk—quality and quantity. I have noticed in looking back over our record that we have only one cow that we had when we went to the Dairy department of the college in 1891. She has given 4,360 to 6,569 pounds of milk a year, and from 203 pounds of butter to 370 pounds per year since 1891. That teaches that it is not safe to judge on the ability of the cow upon one year's record alone. There is a difference in the ability of the cows to produce milk and butter, year after year, and also a difference in seasons.—An address to the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association.

The First Milk.

A German scientist has been investigating the question of rejecting the first drops of milk from the udder, in Germany called the "fore milk." He finds a great deal to justify this opinion. In a sample of fore milk that was examined eight times as many bacteria were found as in the following milk. The actual loss occasioned by rejecting the fore milk is slight, because, as is well known, the first pint of milk contains a very low per cent. of butter fat.

The coat of the cow offers exceptional facilities for the harboring of dust and dirt; it is, therefore, extremely rich in various forms of bacteria like that stick to the flanks and under parts of the animals when they lie down. What is true of the animal is likewise true of the person of the milker. Clothed in dust-laden garments that he has in daily use, he himself is covered with innumerable bacteria in a dried condition. Even if these bacteria may not always be dangerous to the health of the consumers of the milk (though they sometimes are), they may be influential in causing the milk to turn prematurely sour.

From a moist surface bacteria will not be easily diffused into the air. Therefore, the flanks and under parts of the animals, after carding and cleaning, should be thoroughly moistened with water and sponged, so the myriads of germs that remain may be effectually kept out of the milk.

The hands of the milkers should be cleaned with soap just before milking. The habit of moistening the hands with the first drops of the fore milk is noxious.

Gladstone Creamery.

The Gladstone Creamery is owned by joint stock company. It is a commodious building situated on the east side of the town. The company was formed and the creamery built in the season of 1895, and operations were commenced on the 1st of July, under the management of J. Martin, an expert butter maker, and L. Morton, M. P. P., as secretary-treasurer and managing director. The output in the first season, which was a short one, was 25,000 pounds, for which 18½c. was received, giving a net price of 15 cents to the patrons, making a total of \$3,750 received by them. In 1896 the creamery was opened on May 1st and kept open for 10 months. The output of this year was 38,000 pounds, for which 19½c. gross was received, netting the patrons 15½c. per pound for their butter, and giving them a total of \$5,880. In 1897 operations were commenced on May 15th and continued for 10 months, during which 28,000 pounds of butter were made, which were sold at 20c. per pound, giving a net price of 14½c. to the patrons, and amounting to \$4,900. The average number of farmers who patronized the creamery during the three years was 55, which would amount to \$88 per year for each patron. The management have made arrangements for the present season, and the output will be about doubled for the year 1898. Fresh rooms have been laid out in the settlement along the Dauphin road and the cream will be shipped from the stations along the line in refrigerator cars; so with the large increase in output the expense of manufacturing the butter will be very materially reduced and so give an increased return to the patrons.

Fairplay Creamery, Pilot Mound, has made a capital start and will soon be up to the 1000 lbs. a day mark. A few days ago they got enough to make 900 lbs.

The hair

is like a plant. What makes the plant fade and wither? Usually lack of necessary nourishment. The reason why Dr. Ayer's Hair Vigor restores gray or faded hair to its normal color, stops hair from falling, and makes it grow, is because it supplies the nourishment the hair needs.

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Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Dairy Markets.

The Manitoba Dairy Association has, after considerable effort, been able to arrange for receiving by wire quotations on dairy produce daily from both the east and west coasts. Last year there was no reliable information from the west for anyone but the dealers. Montreal figures only were got and as supporters of the government creameries in the Territories found to their cost, prices there and in England proved, in the end of the season especially, very unsatisfactory. This year there will be little or no business done eastward, coast prices being much more satisfactory to the consignor. Taking June 7th as an example, we find the quotations as follows:—

Montreal, reported by W. Grant.—Cheese, quieter, 6½ to 7¼c. Butter, firmer, 15 to 16½c.

Vancouver.—Prices somewhat weak. Cheese, Manitoba, 10½; butter, Manitoba dairy, 15c.; Ontario creamery, 19½c.; local, 25c.

Kaslo, reported by Kaslo Dairy Produce Co.—Butter, eastern creamery, 22½ to 23½c.; Northwest government, 25½c.; fancy, 26 to 28c.; selected dairy, 17 to 20c.

Northwestern Creameries.

The dairy branch of the Agricultural department at Ottawa has issued a statement of the results of working the different creameries under government supervision, as follows:—

	Pounds.	Cents per lb.
Moosomin	31,583	17.48
Whitehead	46,871	17.17
Grenfell	39,706	17.64
Wolseley	20,029	17.93
Indian Head	22,715	17.33
Qu'Appelle	25,960	18.52
Regina	30,502	17.56
Moose Jaw	49,265	17.86
Yorkton	49,352	16.74
Prince Albert	20,104	16.95
Maple Creek	9,921	20.28
Calgary	14,071	19.40
Innisfail	38,621	18.87
Red Deer	30,148	18.59
Wetaskiwin	17,691	18.49
South Edmonton	27,364	17.62

It turns out that the sales made nearest home were the most profitable. Red Deer, for example, for 8,221 lbs. sold to England under Professor Robertson's arrangement, got \$373 less than for 8,138 lbs. sold at Calgary, and this year the Western market will be chiefly cultivated.

The butter industry of the Argentine Republic is assuming large proportions, that country now producing a large amount for export, whereas a few years back almost all the butter was imported. An English capitalized concern has been started at Tandil, in the province of Buenos Ayres, and having bought up a factory already established, it hopes to increase the output in a large degree. Supplies of milk and cream are abundant.

Unprofitable cows should be fattened while being milked. This can be done by heavy feeding, and there is less loss by so doing than any other way. In feeding cows, the great point is the palatability of the food. This is the key of the situation, and must be closely looked after. A satisfactory profit comes with a palatable food, and it does not come without it, for the reason that the cow will not consume enough above the food of support to make a satisfactory profit.

Skimmings.

Farmers' wives in Norfolk and Suffolk shires complain that foreign competition is bringing down the price of their butter to 12 cents a pound. English butter worth only 12 cents a pound must be of the quality of trade butter here, or near it.

Sunlight is the most destructive agent to poisonous germs and microbes. Cows in well ventilated stables where the sunshine streams directly into their stalls will not have the tuberculosis if they themselves are fed and exercised in the open air.

A cross cow in a herd keeps the others always in perpetual fear, and in that manner lessens the milk from the others in quantity more than may be sufficient to balance that given by the cross one. A cross or domineering cow should be gotten rid of.

The calf should be taught to lead by the halter, or to quietly stand, long before when as a cow she will be forced to submit to these restraints. A kind and gentle disposition is of decided money value when you come to the time of putting her into the dairy.

The Marquette Reporter says:—"The first shipment of butter from the Rapid City Creamery was made on Friday last. About 1600 lbs. of butter was shipped, the price received being 20c. f.o.b. J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg, were the purchasers." This is correct so far, but it was a special order in pound prints. Best creamery is quoted at Winnipeg, June 5, at 16½ or 17c., best dairy is 15 to 16c.

A Farmer reporter ran into the Macdonald creamery and found everything humming. The factory was opened this spring on May 26th, a little late on account of the slowness of the grass. Three wagons were being run, with the prospects of a fourth. The make the first week was 750 lbs. and will likely raise to 1000 per week. M. L. Martin is the maker. The cows in this district are in much better trim than in many parts of the province.

J. H. Findlay, Qu'Appelle Station, writes:—"The Qu'Appelle Creamery opened for the season on the 9th of May. Last year the creamery was run for four months, with an output of 26,000 lbs., which sold for 18½c. at the creamery. This is the fourth highest price obtained for butter from any of the creameries in the N.W.T. Cream is received from the patrons around Qu'Appelle, also from the Davin and Balgonie settlements and from the gathering stations at Fort Qu'Appelle. The management expect to double the output this year.

An old dairyman pithily says:—"I wish there was some way to measure the value in dollars and cents of kindness in handling cows. The prosperous dairyman has found it out, at least to his own satisfaction, and reaps the benefit of it. He knows the young heifer will pay him best if he handles and gentles her before she drops her calf. He knows that more milk will come if the heifer drops into the herd in a natural way, and without opposition; that a kind word not only turns away wrath, but it makes the milk come down. That a sweet and patient disposition adds hundreds of dollars' worth of milk to the herd every year. Milk-giving is absolutely a sentimental occupation of the cow. Whether you have any of it in your bones or not, the cow has, and the smart man is the one who humors this trait in the cow."



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Live Stock Impounded.

The following live stock have been impounded since May issue of The Farmer:

Brandon.—30, 10, 19.—One steer, color red, two years old, white on face and white stripe down back. John L. Gray, poundkeeper, Brandon.

Birtle.—Sec. 30, tp. 16, r. 27.—One entire horse, color light brown, black points, small star on forehead, about two years old, no mark or brand. Herman Dodge, poundkeeper, Birtle.

Elton.—Sec. 1, tp. 11, r. 19w.—One mare, color brown, three years old, two white hind feet; also one yearling colt, color brown, left hind foot white. J. W. Pottinger, poundkeeper.

Dufferin.—25, 4, 5 w.—One broncho pony, color bay, white stripe on face, right hind foot white. D. Allison, Roland.

Dufferin.—Pound No. 30, sec. 2, tp. 7, r. 6 w.—One mare, color black, white face and white spots on back; one mare, color bay, white stripe on face, one white fore leg and two white hind legs, about three years old; one mare, color brown or chestnut, three white feet, branded O; one mare, color bay, one white hind foot, branded C on left hip, white star on face; one mare, color black, about three years old, white star on face and one white hind foot; one mare, color brown, two white hind feet. Wm. Green, poundkeeper, Almasinpi.

Dauphin.—Pound No. 11, on sec. 3, tp. 26, r. 19.—One bull, color black, age unknown, tag in left ear with No. 79 on it, bob-tail, has a copper ring in nose. Donald McKillop, poundkeeper.

Glenwood.—34, 8, 22 w.—One mare colt, color dark bay, three years old, white hind foot, one front foot white, white stripe on face; one mare, color light bay, three years old, no marks; one mare, color dark bay, two years old, white spot on forehead, white spot on nose; one mare, color dark bay, one year old, two white hind feet and spot on forehead; one colt, color light bay, one year old, white stripe on face. John Morris, poundkeeper, Souris.

Montcalm.—S.E. qr. 16, 2, 1 e.—One horse, color bay, with white stripe on face, about ten years old, fully shod. Ernest Pionne, poundkeeper, Letellier.

Melita.—Sec. 14, tp. 3, r. 27.—One broncho, color sorrel, branded with I. K. on left hip; one broncho, color grey, branded with two triangles on left shoulder; one colt, color bay, two years old; one filly, color black, two years old; one colt, color black, yearling (entire). John Williams, Melita.

North Norfolk.—N.E. qr. sec. 21, tp. 10, r. 9.—One mare, color gray, halter and bell attached, branded N.T. on the bell; also one horse, color gray, five years old. John McCallum, poundkeeper, Bagot.

North Norfolk.—Pound No. 5, sec. 12, tp. 10, r. 11w.—One mare, color light chestnut, about three years old, with white face; one horse, color dark chestnut, about three years old; one horse, color brown, about four years old, with scar on off front leg; one mare, color bay, three years old, with white stripe on face and white nigh hind foot; one mare, color brown, two years old, with star on face and two white hind feet; one mare, color brown, two years old, with white nigh hind foot, and ring in nigh ear; one mare, color brown, two years old, with star on face and two white hind feet and nigh front foot; one horse, color dark bay, one year old; one mare, color dark bay, one year old, with white nigh hind foot. F. A. F. Bohn, poundkeeper, Rosehill.

Pembina.—10, 2, 8.—One entire horse, color cream, white face, three years old; one stallion, color light brown, white points, one year old; one pony mare, color bay, aged. Robert S. Sprung, poundkeeper, Manitou.

Rockwood.—Sec. 13, tp. 16, r. 2 e.—One stallion, color bay, unbroken, two years old. W. J. Boyd, poundkeeper.

Rockwood.—N.W. ¼ sec. 12, tp. 13, r. 1e.—One yearling bull, color red, no visible mark. Alex. Matheson, poundkeeper.

Regina.—Sec. 32, tp. 15, r. 17.—Two Canadian horses (one horse and one mare) horse black, mare light bay; mare has two white hind feet and white on face, branded D on left shoulder; horse has same brand, right front foot and left hind foot white, thin white stripe on face. John Fahlman, poundkeeper, Regina.

South Norfolk.—One bull, color light roan, tips of horns sawn off, two years old. Geo. Tucker, poundkeeper, Indianford.

Shell River.—Sec. 28, tp. 24, r. 29.—One mare, color chestnut, with white star on forehead, about five years old. J. Dugan, poundkeeper.

Springfield.—N.W. qr. tp. 10, r. 5e.—One bull, color brown and white, white on face, no brand or mark visible, one year old. Joseph Dodds, poundkeeper.

St. Francois Xavier, Pound No. 5.—One stallion, color grey, with a heavy mane, two hind feet white up to fetlock, no brand visible, two years old; one stallion, color red, right hind foot white over fetlock and white spot on forehead, no brand visible, two years old. William Ross, poundkeeper.

Wheatland.—One mare, color dark bay, about two years old. T. Sawyer, poundkeeper, Wheatland.

Horses Lost.—Two geldings, one steel gray, the other clear gray, with dark mane and tail, both branded G. M. on right hip. Geo. McCrum, Westbourne.

Summer and Fall Fairs, 1898.

Killarney.—June 27 and 28.
Shoal Lake.—July 6 and 7.
Winnipeg Industrial.—July 11 to 16.
Portage la Prairie.—July 18, 19, and 20.
Brandon.—July 19, 20, 21 and 22.
Manitou.—July 21 and 22.
Carberry.—July 21, 22 and 23.
Cypress River.—July 27 and 28.
Brokenhead.—Sept. 26 and 27.
Woodlands (Meadow Lea).—Sept. 28.
Lorne (Somerset).—Sept. 29.
Morden.—Sept. 29 and 30.
Toronto Industrial.—Aug. 29 to Sept. 10.
Western (London, Ont.).—Sept. 8 to 17.
Central Canada (Ottawa).—Sept. 16 to 24.
Springfield (Dugald).—Sept. 28 and 29.
Argyle, Woodlands, Woonona.—Sept. 30.
Elkhorn.—Oct. 1st week.
Gilbert Plains.—Oct. 1.
Mountain, No. 2 (Crystal City).—Oct. 1.
Mountain E. D., No. 2 (Pilot Mound).—Oct. 4.
Kildonan and St. Pauls (Kildonan).—Oct. 4 and 5.
Dauphin.—Oct. 5.
Norfolk, No. 2 (Austin).—Oct. 5.
Rockwood (Stonewall).—Oct. 5 and 6.
St. Andrew's (Selkirk).—Oct. 5 and 6.
Minnedosa.—Oct. 6.
Rapid City.—Oct. 7.
Dufferin (Carman).—Oct. 6 and 7.
Virden.—Oct. 11 and 12.
Beautiful Plains (Neepawa).—Oct. 11 and 12.
Woodlands, No. 2 (St. Francois Xavier).—Oct. 11 and 12.
Glenwood (Souris).—Oct. 12 and 13.
Turtle Mountain (Boissevain).—Oct. 13 and 14.

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Good Work at Reasonable Prices.



An English Poultry Farm.

American poultry farms are not in it with J. W. Cook & Sons, of Lincoln, Eng. The stock this firm offers is bred and reared on twelve farms, all within the county, and covering upwards of 7,000 acres of land. Each breeding pen has 40 to 100 acres of space for the birds to roam over, including grass and grain fields, whilst in other respects the attention the birds receive is of the best. During the past twelve months over 6,000 birds have been sold by this firm, as well as upwards of 8,000 eggs for setting. They recently sent to Buenos Ayres 160 magnificent birds, representing Bantams, silver and dark grey Dorkings, Langshans, brown and white Leghorns, Brahmas, buff and partridge Cochins, Minorcas, and Plymouth Rocks; Aylesbury, Rouen, and Cayuga ducks, and also swans and turkeys.

The incubator has been used this spring by professional poultry men with considerable variety of results. Some have had great success, others the reverse. One very capable man was called out on other business just when his eggs were at the most critical stage. That cost him a good many fine chickens, but he vows that next caller must wait till the hatch is out.

Whatever the Leghorns do they do with a will. When they lay they shell out eggs as though they were being paid for it by the job. And when they moult, they simply moult, and do nothing else. One thing at a time, seems to be a leading article of the Leghorn creed. They concentrate the whole of their attention upon the business in hand, and do not exhaust their energies on two or three different tasks when they should be all expended upon one. The Leghorns never do things by halves.

Mr. Grisdale, Port Robinson, Ont., is reported to have made the following special winter yields from 15 hens (the first he ever owned). They commenced to lay on November 17. In November they laid 41 eggs, December 137 eggs, January 187 eggs, February 226 eggs, March 317 eggs; total, 908 eggs. One of these hens was set on March 19th, and another one on the 21st. None of them were pure bred, five of them show Leghorn, one resembles black Minorcas, and others have some Plymouth Rock blood in them. They have a comfortable house and he takes good care of them.

J. McLachlan, Dugald, Man., last week brought into The Farmer office two Brahma eggs which measured $6\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 inches in circumference and weighed $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces each. Next. Here it is:—By the last mail from Scotland we learn that John Hogg, Eyemouth, had in one week four eggs, the biggest $4\frac{1}{2}$ ozs., two at $4\frac{1}{4}$ ozs., and one 4 oz., all from hens of pure Minorca strain. In the same county and same week a Rouen duck laid an egg $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches in circumference, $4\frac{1}{4}$ long and weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. The same duck frequently lays eggs of great size. Another duck, variety not specified, laid at Balfron an egg weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.

The American Poultry Association will hold its next annual meeting in Toronto

on January 10th to 14th next. These are the dates on which the Ontario Poultry Association will hold its 25th annual exhibition in that city, when it is expected the largest show of fine poultry and pet stock ever held in Canada will take place. This will be the first occasion on which the American Poultry Association has ever met in Canada, and a large exhibit of birds from the other side of the line is expected. Already a number of members of the American Association who will attend the meeting have signified their intention of bringing some of their best birds with them.

Not many years ago, says Chambers' Journal, the possibility of shipping eggs from Australia with any likelihood of their reaching England except in a decomposed condition would have been ridiculed as utterly unworthy of consideration. Today the thing is not only being accomplished, but the eggs arrive in such first-class condition that they pass as new laid. This has been rendered possible by the universal employment of refrigerating apparatus on shipboard. The eggs while still perfectly fresh, are forwarded by the Australian poultry-keepers to the cold store, and are shipped to England at the time when eggs are scarce, and consequently at their dearest. Many thousands of dozens, packed in boxes with cardboard divisions, filled up with dry pea-husks, are now forwarded to this country from November to January. In a recent consignment the local price of eggs at the time of shipping was five-pence half-penny per dozen, the freight and packing cost about three-pence per dozen, and they realized one shilling and six-pence per dozen retail on arrival at this side of the world." With eggs selling in country stores at 8 to 10 cents a dozen, more attention should be paid to egg preservation in Manitoba.

H. Helliwell has sown several acres of millet at Rosser as an addition to his winter feed. It grows freely on good land and makes a good yield.

Oak Grove Poultry Yards,

LOUISE BRIDGE P.O., WINNIPEG, MAN.

During the month of June prices will be cut in two.

Address—CHAS. MIDWINTER,
Louise Bridge P.O., Winnipeg.

BLACK MINORCAS

J. DENNER & SON, 295 Fountain St., Winnipeg, Breeders of high-class Minorcas, will this season breed from two pens.

No. 1 Pen—headed by brother to the winner of New York Show, 1897, mated to pullets imported direct from Pitts, of England, winner at the Crystal Palace.

No. 2 Pen—Pitts' cockerel and Duff's and Roberts' hens. A limited number of Eggs for setting will be sold from these two pens. 2246

Reid's Poultry Yards.

My BLACK MINORCAS at the Poultry Show in February won as many prizes as all competitors combined and silver cup for best display. GOLDEN WYANDOTTES—1st pen, 2nd cock. Stock for sale. EGGS \$2.00 per setting of 13.

2291 THOS. REID, 293 Lizzie St., Winnipeg.

BUFF COCHINS.

Having imported the best trio ever brought to Manitoba and mated with best previous strain here, will sell EGGS from above birds at \$2.00 per setting. Also pure-bred Brown Leghorns, Eggs \$1.50 per setting.

F. D. BLAKELY,
255 Ellen St., Winnipeg.

H. A. CHADWICK,

ST. JAMES, MANITOBA.



Light Brahmas, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Black Langshans, Guinea Fowls, and Black African Bantams, Fowls for sale of each variety. My birds are too well-known as prize-winners to call forth further comment. Write for what you want. Telephone connection with Winnipeg. German Canaries for sale, good singers.

2170

Maw's Poultry Farm

SPECIAL PRICES FOR JUNE.

This is the best month in the season for hatching, and I have reduced my prices on eggs from my mammoth Bronze Turkeys and Toulouse Geese to \$2 per setting, Barred Plymouth Rocks \$1.50 for 15 eggs, White Leghorns, Pekin and Rouen Ducks \$1 per setting, Wyandottes, White or Silver Laced, and Pearl Guineas, \$1.50 per setting. I have a large stock of Mammoth Bronze Turkeys, headed by yearling gobbler "Mammoth," winner of 1st and Hutching's special for best gobbler in exhibition; mated with first prize hen, 24 lbs.; 1st pullet 22 lbs., and other hens selected for size and bone. Eggs from this fine flock of acclimatized birds will produce healthy stock and free from disease. My Toulouse Geese are extra large, and won silver medal at Industrial, 1896. My Rocks are pure Hero strain, selected from high standard, size, and best egg strain. My Ducks won 1st—Pekin, old; 1st old; 1st young—Rouen—at February show. Write for what you want, and I will do my best to give satisfaction. I have issued a large descriptive catalogue, illustrated with photographs of my birds. I will mail it free on receipt of address.

M. MAW, Winnipeg.

Louise Bridge Poultry Yards

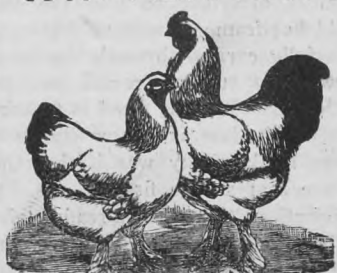
Secure another Sweeping Victory.

On S. and R.C. White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, & Black Spanish; winning at Manitoba Poultry Show, February, 1898, 16 First Prizes, 11 Seconds, 2 Thirds, 4 Silver Cups and Gold Medal, including Lieutenant-Governor's Challenge Cup and Gold Medal, won by my pen of White Wyandottes, score 188 1-12, the highest scoring pen on exhibition, followed up closely with my pen of White Leghorns, score 187 $\frac{1}{4}$. My breeding pens this season are as fine as can be found in America, containing all my prize winning stock. Egg orders booked now from these grand pens at \$2.00 per 13. A few choice birds for sale.

ADDRESS—

GEORGE WOOD, Louise Bridge P.O.,
Winnipeg, Man.

WINTER LAYERS.



Barred
Plymouth
Rocks
AND
Mammoth
Light
Brahmas.

My birds are mated by one of the best Poultry judges and are prize winners at Eastern shows. EGGS, 13 for \$2.00; 26 for \$3.50.

E. R. COLLIER, P.O. Box 562, Winnipeg, Man.
Eggs at half-price after June 1st.

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER

ESTABLISHED 1882.

The only Agricultural Paper printed in Canada between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast.

THE STOVEL COMPANY,
PROPRIETORS.CORNER McDERMOT AVE. AND ARTHUR ST.
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

SUBSCRIPTION to Canada or the U.S., \$1 a year, in advance. To Great Britain \$1.25 (5s. sterling). Agents wanted to canvass in every locality, to whom liberal commissions will be given.

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Transient advertisements, for less than three months, 15c. a line (each insertion). Terms for longer periods on application.

All advertisements estimated on the Nonpareil line—12 lines to an inch. A column contains 128 lines.

Copy for changes in advertisements should be sent in not later than the 20th of the month to ensure classified location in the next month's issue. Copy for new advertisements should reach the office by the 30th of each month.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

It is the intention of the publishers of this paper to admit into their columns none but reliable advertisers, and we believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from such parties. If subscribers find any of them to be otherwise, we will esteem it a favour if they will advise us, and we will at any time give our personal attention to any complaints which we receive. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often advertise different things in several papers.

LETTERS.

Either on business or editorial matters, should be addressed simply "THE NOR'-WEST FARMER, Winnipeg," and not to any individual by name.

Look at Your Subscription Label.

When you pay your subscription, watch the name label on the next two issues which you receive. On the first issue following payment, it might not give the correct date—the type-setting machine may make an error and the proof not be corrected before mailing day. But if the date is not correct on the second issue please notify us by postal card.

Look at the date label now. Are you in arrears? Are you "paid up" to the present date? The label will tell you. If in arrears, please renew promptly.

WINNIPEG, JUNE, 1898.



ELEVATOR MONOPOLY AND THE COMPROMISE.

"As you were," is the word, so far as any interference by parliament in the elevator monopoly is concerned. It is the fashion to-day to denounce Dr. Douglas as the dupe of the elevator men and railroad managers, but the Nor'-West Farmer does not care to join in that cry. It is almost diverting to find the men who could not frame a measure that could be successfully carried through the house at Ottawa now turning round and telling us that all we really need is to carry out perfectly the law as it now stands on the statute book. Why was it that they did not see that at the first?

The agitation that has already taken place, though apparently abortive, has done a lot of good, and will go a long way to modify the grievances of which so many farmers have had reason to complain. The railroad should have no interest in maintaining a standing grievance

from which it can apparently reap no benefit, and in view of what has already taken place, should keep a sharp look out for cases of real oppression at local elevators, and give a ready ear to every well grounded complaint brought under the notice of its management. Already some of the principal buyers and elevator owners have distinctly stated that they do not object to any farmer shipping out his own wheat in the way he thinks best, and if this is correct, the back of the grievance is broken. If the demand for freedom from unfair restriction is trifled with next shipping season, there is little reason to doubt that something decisive will be done next year in Parliament to ensure all the facilities for free action in sale and transport that any reasonable man can require.

In the discussion of this question we are apt to forget that the main difficulties to be met are not due to any man or body of men. Our staple product is wheat. Not one farmer in twenty owns a granary, and everybody interested wants to have his crop delivered in Buffalo sixty days after it is threshed in Manitoba. We must have storage for what cannot be moved out in time and every reasonable man is prepared to pay fairly for the use of the elevator system. It is because too many of those who control these elevators have put on, or are believed to have put on, the screw too tight that so much agitation has been aroused. The men who have unfairly worked the protection granted them by the railroad, must learn for themselves the teaching of universal experience, that reform too long delayed is liable to end in revolution. Use the elevators for legitimate business purposes and agitation will die out, as a fire dies for want of fuel. Neglect the warnings already given and it is probable that in the long run the elevator owners will be the greatest sufferers when the crisis comes.

SHAVING THE GRADES.

Every line of business has its own peculiarities. In the old world, selling by sample was thought about the fairest way to sell grain and several other articles of farm produce, and for plenty of cases it is still the best, both in the old world and in the new. But on this continent, when buyer and seller are often thousands of miles apart, this good old plan was long ago found defective and has been almost entirely superseded by the system of inspection by competent and independent experts, on a scale the details of which everyone in the business can comprehend. Minnesota and the sister states of the Northwest buy at every local elevator on grade, and so far as the jurisdiction of that state extends, everything is also sold by grade. So large and long continued has been their experience and so perfect has the system based on that experience got to be, that the officials entrusted with that work can honestly boast that it has been brought about to a pitch of perfection, to which very little objection can possibly be made by any of the parties to whom the inspection system stands as a business intermediary. But a hitch has recently taken place in the working of this justly esteemed system, that is not without material for suggestion to those on this side of the line who are engaged in the same business.

It is not difficult to see that even with highly skilled and quite impartial inspectors, cars of grain will turn up so near the dividing line between the different grades that without much injustice they might be put either above or below the line. To a man operating on a large scale, the blending of a lot in such a way that he can just secure the grade he wants and avoid being put a grade lower is of considerable importance. This process of "shaving" or "skinning" has a natural tendency to keep down the quality of the sample, and has been a source of considerable heart-burning to the men whose car or cars stood well above the dividing line, but when dumped into a public elevator went to raise the character and consequent value of what had been "shaved" by the professional operator.

Just at this point has arisen a serious hitch in the hitherto much approved grading system of Minnesota. The rule there, as well as here, is that a car just on the line gets the benefit of the doubt and goes up rather than down. A great deal of the wheat grown by our neighbors last year was light but otherwise good, and got rather frequently more indulgence from the inspectors than it deserved, they reckoning on the better samples to equal up the whole. But the owners for reasons good to them kept the best and the doubtful apart, had, in fact, three differing grades of the No. 1 Northern, which is their contract grade. When the Leiter deal came on, that live young Israelite would buy only the best, and at his price was tempting, he got the contents of the best bins, leaving the rest to ordinary customers. This the millers very naturally kicked at and appealing to the Chief Inspector at St. Paul, got the lower end of the 1 Northern kicked down a grade, which a month ago meant something over 15 cents a bushel. The owners of course appealed to the railroad and warehouse Commission, but that board sustained the ruling of their inspector leaving the men who cut their business too fine very much in the hole. Every fairminded man will support and approve this decision.

The ruling of Inspector Clausen by which the shaded off portion of the contents of these elevators was cut down a grade, is No. 3 of the 27 governing Minnesota inspection:

"Rule 3.—In the inspection of grain from private warehouses the inspection department will be governed by the general standard of grades in force at the public warehouses, and no grain will be allowed to pass inspection that is not fully up to the general average quality of the different grades coming out from the regular bins of the public warehouses."

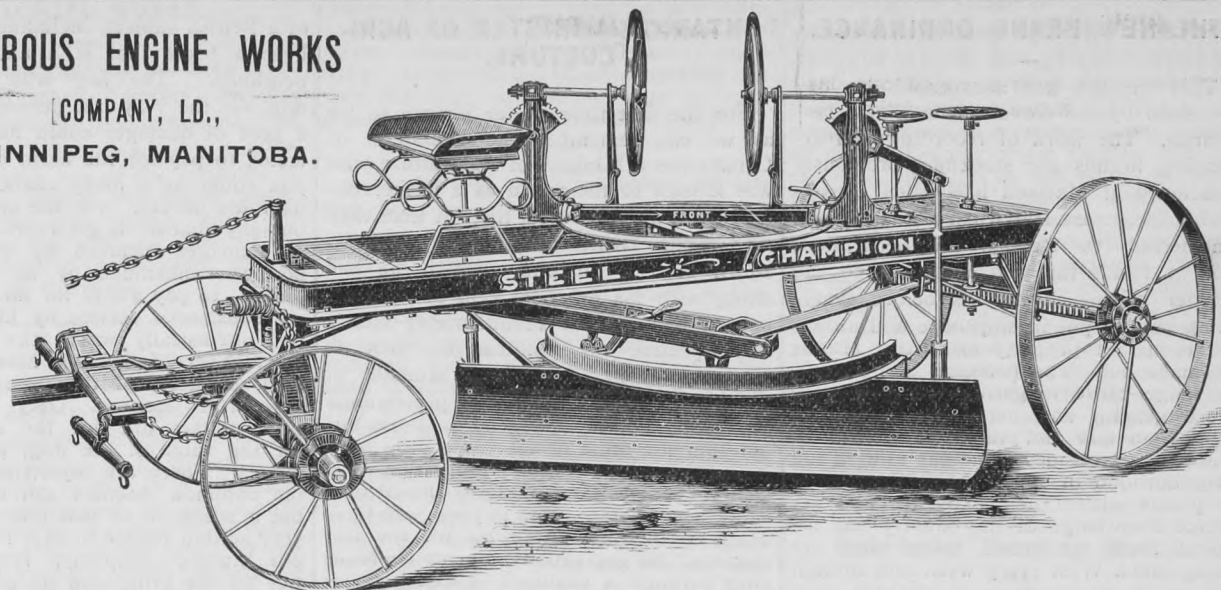
The Nor'-West Farmer has repeatedly denounced this practice of shaving. Its tendency is to lower the reputation and consequent market value of the whole grain product of the country. There is nothing wrong in a dealer mixing and dressing the wheat he buys so as to get the grades he aims at. But the man who deliberately sails so near the wind all the time deserves no indulgence, and should be made to toe the mark every time. This case from Minnesota is an object lesson to ourselves and should not be allowed to go unnoticed.

Even when no such intent is manifest why should not there be a means to indicate the quality of the cars that are just on the debatable line. If to our 1 B there were an appendix, say we call it 1 B₁, into which all near cases could be admitted, the buyer would at once know the class of grain offered him, and the disputes resulting from "skinning" and re-inspection thereafter would at once be got rid of. Re-inspection after mixing

WATEROUS ENGINE WORKS

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Simplicity,
Strength,
Efficiency,
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Ease of
Operation,
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THE STEEL CHAMPION REVERSIBLE ROAD MACHINE.

Write for Catalogue giving full description—List of competitive trials and record of the Steel Champion—it wins in all trials.

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as tolerated on our side of the line, is a grievance that both the farmer and the miller now complain of, and with good show of reason. Fair dealing needs no compromises and the example furnished us by Minnesota should not be lost sight of, when next the Dominion system of inspection comes up for adjustment. Till then every car ought to be "fully up to" the standard or go below.

KEEP WELL INSURED.

It is hardly possible to turn over a week's rural exchanges without turning up little paragraphs like the following:—

"On the 17th Mr. McGuirl's planing mill at Moosomin was burned down, loss \$5000, and on the same date, Mr. Bristol, living about five miles north of that town, lost his buildings, valued at \$3000, from a prairie fire. No insurance in either case."

"Mr. Arnett, Burnside, and a neighbor, suffered severe losses on Sunday evening. Prior to going away from home, to attend the evening church service, Mr. Arnett had lighted a smudge fire in his yard, sparks from which ignited straw and other inflammable material. Travelling to the stable, the latter premises were soon destroyed, together with four horses, including a team belonging to Mr. Arnett and a team of a neighbor, Mr. Paisley, who had put his horses there during the evening service."

Accidents there will always be, but there is always a possibility of lessening their number by taking more careful precautions, and the certainty that by payment of a moderate premium to some fire insurance company, we may spread the loss when it does come over a number of others in the same circumstances, who can afford to share it with us.

The smudge, as every farmer knows, becomes for months almost indispensable and therefore it is of great importance that every one using it should be careful to safeguard it to the best of his power. If there are several inches of manure in the corral and no means to keep the fire in the smudge from getting outside, that

fire may with the help of a very little wind, spread not only over the corral but into the buildings as well and just when he can least afford it, his record of losses, culminates in the words "no insurance." whether you are insured or not, you cannot spend an hour or two to better purpose than by seeing without delay to the isolation of the smudge from all possible contact with other inflammable material inside the corral. It cannot be done a day too soon. How best to do it may be best left to your own judgment, only don't put the job off. And don't say you cannot afford to insure. That is the very reason why you should insure. Better sell a cow or pig to pay for the insurance than have the risk of having them burnt at the stake, or houseless in mid-winter and yourself dependent on charity for fresh shelter. You may escape for half a life time and may get caught to-morrow. Err on the safe side.

THE CARBERRY MILL BONUS.

General experience has demonstrated that the bonus system is liable to be seriously abused. On this ground the local legislature has very wisely set its face against the policy of bonusing country mills. But what may be all right as a general practice sometimes becomes a hindrance instead of a help, and the experience of Carberry district has there created a feeling that there can be no better friend to the farmer than a local mill handled with judgment and energy. The two local newspapers, which can hardly agree about anything else, are cordially at one on the mill business, and the mass of the people interested are agreed that a good mill in their midst is a good thing and worth paying a trifle to get and keep. A crowded public meeting has been held at Carberry, where the feeling in favor of the mill was very emphatic. What was said by Councillor John G. Barron may be quoted as a sample of what took place:—"Councillor Barron would give \$100 to the fund. He spoke of the small cost of the mill to each individ-

ual farmer. Eighty cents a year would be repaid to them ten times, even a hundred times, in the course of a single season. The old mill, which was never a first-class mill in any respect, had more than repaid the ratepayers for what they had contributed to its cost. It had steadily helped the farmers by maintaining the price of wheat, in fact, it would be difficult to estimate the amount it had saved to the district on that account alone. Then the cheap rate at which mill feed could be got, and the saving of time and money, and horseflesh, by getting it so near, was worth much. He would recommend that a person of influence go with the councillor and that a thorough canvass of the ratepayers be entered upon at once."

This is business talk and though no legislation can be had for another year the mill will go on all the same. A canvass has been made in town and country and notes have been got sufficient to start the work this season in anticipation of the decision of the legislature privately promised for next session that the bonus by-law will then be passed. One strong point in this case is that there is support enough already given to ensure a good start and from men capable of giving a reliable opinion. But while it is all right to sanction this particular mill the bonus system is very little to be trusted and has often done more harm than good.

The most recent intelligence from Carberry shows almost a certainty of success for the bonusing scheme. A highly successful canvass has been made and \$6000 of bonus assured, to be covered by the notes of the supporters till proper legislation has been carried through. R. C. Ennis, of Neepawa, makes an offer to build an 100,000 bushel elevator and 300 barrel mill for a bonus of \$10,000, and binds himself for 15 years to sell bran at \$5 and shorts at \$6 a ton and grind wheat at 12 cents a bushel, running his mill nine months in the year. G. Rogers, M.P.P., is still to hear from, and with proper vigilance as to the details of terms, the farmers of North Cypress will have done a wise thing if they carry out this scheme.

THE NEW BRAND ORDINANCE.

This measure was not passed one day too soon by the Government of the Territories. The work of recording and arranging brands for stockmen previously conducted at Macleod had fallen considerably in arrears and when the work was transferred to Regina, the department got its hands full and according to the Leader it will be months before everything can be put in shipshape and an accurate list of properly distinctive brands be made out. The breeding and feeding of range cattle is getting year by year more general and herds are increasing rapidly in size and value. The firm of Gordon & Ironsides alone has now in the neighborhood of 15,000 head distributed at points where their extensive and accurate knowledge of the country has induced them to locate. Good bulls are being taken West every week and though the recent importations of stockers have as a rule been low down both in condition and quality, the country is all the time being filled up and the quality will improve.

THE RAIN IN ITS SEASON.

Once more the hearts of the toilers who sow our fields and reap our harvests have been gladdened by the coming of the rain in its appointed season. In the southwest rain has been both rare and limited in quantity for nearly a twelve-month, but the last few days have supplied the parched land a grateful stimulus and the promise of more to follow. All nature rejoices in the genial atmosphere, fresh and fragrant, and no words, no stretch of human eloquence can more fittingly describe the beauty of the season and the feelings it should inspire than the song written almost three thousand years ago by the shepherd son of Jesse of Bethlehem. Homer, later born, and still unrivalled by any secular poet, makes no such exquisite music as that which springs spontaneous from the heart of the sweet singer of Israel.

"Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and the evening to rejoice. Thou visitest the earth and waterest it, Thou greatly enrichest it, the river of God is full of water. Thou providest them with corn, when Thou hast so prepared the earth.

Thou waterest her furrows abundantly, Thou settlest the ridges thereof, Thou makest it soft with showers, Thou blessest the springing thereof.

Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness and Thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness and the hills are girt about with joy. The pastures are clothed with flocks, the valleys are also covered over with corn, they shout for joy, they also sing. Praise waiteth for Thee, O God in Zion. Bless the Lord all ye his works in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul."

—The Ohio Experiment Station is now working out experiments in special cultivation through the agency of former students now farming for themselves at various points in that state. Their previous training on the state farm qualifies them to carry out this line of work much more reliably than is possible with less carefully trained experimenters.

ONTARIO'S MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

For the first time in our history so far as we can remember the Dominion of Canada has a Minister of Agriculture who was known to the world as a farmer before he entered political life. A man may be a capital farmer and still very unfit to adorn such a position. But if he has along with his practical skill in his own chosen field, sound administrative ability and aptitude for political life, then he is likely to make a better Minister of Agriculture than a lawyer or professional politician, who must depend on those under him for most of his inspiration as a minister. So for a good long time have thought the people of Ontario and so they think still. Now John Dryden was their Minister of Agriculture up till the last election, but got shunted by his constituency through a coalition of extreme factions on a pretext not quite groundless. But on sober second thought it is found that the country at large has gained nothing by this move and a strong representation has been made to Premier Hardy by a deputation of leading agriculturists of all shades of politics that John Dryden is the man wanted to fill the position and ought to be retained there, some arrangement being made to provide him with a seat in the house. It is to be hoped that so good a man may be retained in a position he is so well fitted for, and in which his all-round experience will enable him to do good service to the state.

JUSTICES JUSTICE.

"There are three kinds of justice in the world," said a shrewd old lawyer. "Scrimp justice, lucky justice and justices justice." A case has just occurred at Carberry which richly illustrates all three varieties of justice. We quote from the Carberry News:—

"An interesting case came up before Justice Cope in the Municipal Hall on Tuesday morning. It arose out of the shooting of a dog on Saturday, the 7th, by James Ford. It appeared from the evidence that the dog on several occasions caused Mr. Ford annoyance, by coming on to his place, and that he had killed a duck. Ford had written to J. Beswatherick, at whose place the animal was harbored, complaining of it, and asking him to keep it tied up. On the morning in question Ford saw that a part of his garden, which had been recently planted, was scratched over, and saw the dog there. He got his gun, and followed the animal to Beswatherick's. Here he met the hired man, and told him to shoot the animal, and on his declining to do so, shot it himself. It appeared that the dog belonged to a son of Beswatherick's and was able to pull a sleigh. The case was considerably lengthened by the 'scrappings' of the counsel, as to what evidence was, and what not, admissible. Mr. Ford considered the dog valueless—or, at most, worth 'five cents a dozen,' but admitted that his knowledge of the worth of such animals was limited. His worship found the defendant guilty, and ordered him to pay \$10 for the dog, \$5 fine, and \$3.75 costs, giving him till Saturday to pay, or, in default, eighteen days imprisonment."

The justice who tried this case is a very worthy English gentleman who has evidently a very high idea of the rights

of a British subject, including his right to keep a brute that is a nuisance to his neighbor. The boy who claimed the dog was the very last person from whom a cent of damages could have been collected to pay for the harm it did, even if you could by a lucky chance catch it in flagrante delicto. Yet the man who withheld any chance to get redress for repeated damages incurred by this worthless pest is condemned by an ultra British justice to pay \$18.75 for doing the country substantial service by killing a brute not intrinsically worth the price of a hide. Every farmer in Manitoba should read, ponder and take warning by this wonderful decision. Only think of it. Five dollars fine for the shooting, \$10 for the value of the dog, and \$3.75 expenses. There are mysteries in law that the common intellect can never fathom, but it seems to us that this decision does very scrimp justice to Mr. Ford, who has our sincere sympathy, very lucky justice to the brute and its owners, and at the same time a bright example of the justice's justice which furnishes bread and butter to village lawyers and occasions wonderment to plain people with no rule but common sense to guide them.

—For index to the contents of June issue of the Nor'-West Farmer, see inside of front cover. We trust this will be appreciated by our readers.

—The farming papers are almost flooded with advice in favor of "intensive farming." That kind of farming is all right in Japan or Belgium, where land is scarce and labor low priced, but here and now we must work with more expensive labor and equipments and must do it on a bigger scale to make it pay. Extensive farming, well managed, has the best chance here at present. Fewer and better stock are all right all the time.

—A settler of more than ordinary make that has just taken hold at Makinak, in the Dauphin district, is Robt. Duncan, late Secretary of the Plowman's Union, a society for the advancement of the condition of the farm servants of the north-east of Scotland. He can be counted on as a man that will bring both skill and intelligence to bear on his work as a pioneer settler. We want many men of that stamp and it is to be hoped that his success will be such as to attract a good many more of the same substantial type.

—C.E. Hall has long been well known as one of the most lively of the numerous live men who farm along the north side of the C. P. R. between Kemnay and Oak Lake. His fields have recently furnished an object lesson in wheat growing that is worth going a good way to see. He farms on a pretty large scale and last year summer-fallowed very thoroughly, going over his land about half a dozen times in the way of surface cultivation after plowing. Result—the drouth that has told pretty stiffly on all crops superficially cultivated has done no harm at all to that particular crop. Not only did the cultivation kill millions of weeds, but the texture of the soil became so fine and porous that it held a great amount of moisture, with the certainty, should no accident intervene, of a record crop of the best grade of wheat to be found in the Northwest.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—It is said some money has been dropped at the Brandon Farmers' Elevator by selling before top notch was reached, or it was held till figures got a tumble. Well—that is just one of the incidents in the business of buying and selling wheat. Somebody must get nipped when the squeeze comes, but we trust none of the farmers interested in the Brandon district will be losers by this deal.

—The abattoir being put up by Messrs. Gordon & Ironsides at the west end of the C. P. R. yards is now nearing completion. The internal equipments are of the best and most recent style, and the establishment will be fit for use in a month's time. This establishment will give a considerable impetus to the dead meat trade of the west and is another proof of the well directed enterprise of this progressive firm.

—We understand the Dominion Government are now having the school lands of the West valued by competent inspectors with a view to offering them for sale by auction later in the season. Looking to the conditions of the country generally this should prove a good thing both for the schools and the prospective buyers. There is a greater prospect of such lands selling for their value this year than ever before.

—The year book of the U.S. Department of Agriculture just to hand is a bulky and handsome volume of 790 pages, crammed full of information bearing on the extensive and varied work of the department. Besides a mass of statistics and general information it deals with many things directly connected with improved agriculture. Some of these we hope to find room for in future issues of *The Farmer*.

—In compliance with the urgent request of the citizens of Winnipeg, four of the buffaloes donated by Lord Strathcona to the Dominion Government will be left at Silver Heights. These are a 4-year-old bull, a 3-year-old cow and calf and a heifer. The calf has already been solemnly named Andrews McCreary and a buffalo Herd Book looms in the future. The rest of the lot go out to Banff today, June 10th.

—This year's seeding in its outcome shews a conspicuous triumph for the drill against broadcast seeding. Put in at an even depth not a grain of seed is lost by the drill method, while by the other way, if the land was rough, part of the seed went too far into the ground and if fine much of it never got into the ground at all and lies dead. The shoe drill seems the favorite for all land where stubble and roots are to be encountered.

—A test has recently been made in several districts of the U.S. as to the possibility of making free delivery of mail to farmers, but the senate committee has decided that it cannot be done unless at excessive cost. Bad roads are blamed as one cause of the failure. Mail is

delivered every day in most parts of England and Scotland by rural postmen who cover a circuit on foot of 10 to 15 miles daily. It would be thought terribly retrograde there if anyone were to propose to do away with such delivery.

—The outside world has within the last year been considerably astonished at the prices ostensibly paid in the States for hogs of fancy reputation. One of these was Klever's Model. The bother is that these enormous animals are more likely to die than one that cost fifty or a hundred times less money. There has been a case recently before the Grand Jury of Illinois in which a breeder named Council sold for \$5,100 a hog as Klever's Model that reliable witnesses declare is no such beast, but one as like him as possible bought to fill the place of the original after it had died. When hogs bring any way from \$2000 up to \$5000 there is a sad temptation to just such forms of fraud.

—The recent rains coming as they did just in the nick of time to save the early sown wheat and give a rushing start to later sown grain, are reported as very general, covering the whole country from the Rockies to Lake Superior. The hay crop is also reported as not so poor as it looked to be, and pastures are now all that the stockowner could wish. The feed in a dry spring is much more nutritious, what there is of it, than when grown in wet weather. So far no more hopeful season has been known in the west for years. Cattle that were turned out very poor and thin a few weeks ago are picking up wonderfully, especially those of good grade. Besides the advantages to all growing crops, the rain will be a great help to fresh breaking. The land is softened and the sap in the roots makes the sod decay much better than when it is only dried by a hot sun.

—The recent purchase by the Ogilvie Milling Co. of the Nairn oatmeal mill at Winnipeg is likely to have a very favorable influence on the price of oats in local markets. Their buyers at local points will be able to handle all the good milling oats on offer at very little extra cost to the firm and cheap handling and transport means not only a saving to the Ogilvie Company but a better market to the producer at the farm and easier terms to the consumer. It is the small savings nowadays that help to make many a business profitable. The expense of marketing the finished product is another element to be taken into account. In the province itself Ogilvies have sold in the ordinary way a considerable amount of the produce of this mill and now that they own it they will not only bring up its equipment to the best modern standard, but will be able to find openings in all outside markets where their flour finds its way. At present prices for oats export sales cannot be made profitable, but one good crop of oats will bring that all right.

—A correspondent from Mather, on the Deloraine branch, writes very much in the same strain as does Mr. Lowe in our correspondence columns. The statement made by this correspondent that screenings are thrown out round the elevators, and fed on by cattle, carried round on wa-

gon wheels or spread by every wind that blows, is quite true. But if the late restrictions are felt this year to be specially irksome the farmers themselves are not entirely without blame. A visitor on a wheat farm sees a farmer empty a sack of such screenings in his yard to feed his chickens, although he well knows that not only pig weed but noxious seeds as well will be propagated by tens of thousands from that pile, and that visitor is liable to think that something stringent should be done to stop this reckless conduct. It is this sort of thing that furnishes a strong show of reason for stringent legislation, and if it bears hard on those who are careful in their handling of foul seeds they should be impartial in their cursing. Criticize yourself and your neighbors as well as the members who have acted to the best of their light in trying to check a danger which all admit.

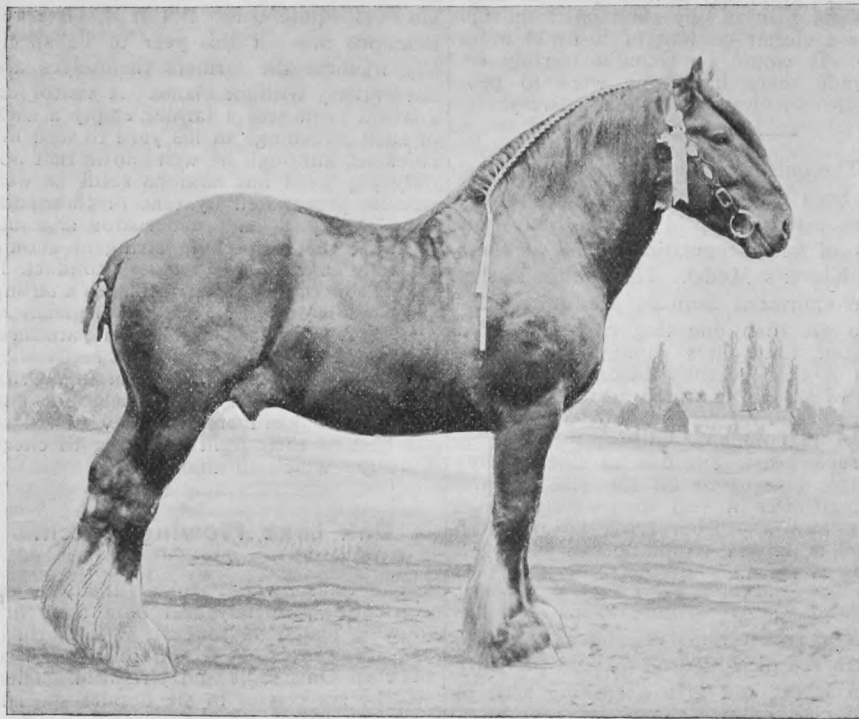
Oak Lake Plowing Match.

The Lansdowne Farmers' Institute and Agricultural Society will hold their first plowing match on June 21, at the farm of Jas. Coulter, 20, 9, 23, on the main road between Oak Lake and Griswold. There will be six classes in all, besides specials, and the prizes offered amount to \$275, which run in value from \$25 downwards. The specials include \$5 sweepstakes for best plowed acre on the field, two from Thos. Doherty, a plowing enthusiast, for best feering and best finish, and prizes suitable for oldest plowman and youngest plowboy. Judging will be done under the following scale of points: Straightness, 15; feering, 10; in and out at end of furrow, 10; covering weeds, 30; depth and width of furrows, 10; evenness of land, 10; width of land, 5; finish, 10. Competition is open to all and refreshments will be served on the grounds. Isaac Young, secretary, Oak Lake, will be pleased to furnish information to those contemplating taking part.

The Blyth committee has just published the conditions of their plowing match, to be held on June 17. The programme will be found on page 268, this issue. The standard of judging will be straightness, 15 points; feering, in and out at ends, depth and width of furrow, finish, evenness of top of land, 10 points each; covering weeds, 30; width of land, 5; depth to be plowed, 6 in. One strike out and one finish. Two rounds on the crown after the land is closed. Two furrows joining next land not judged. Competitors from a distance coming the night before the contest will be furnished with accommodation. The first to make an entry in the plowing match is Tom Wood, a newly arrived Scotsman from Berwickshire.

T. F. Butcher, Brandon, has a curiosity in the shape of a pure bred Irish setter dog. Mr. Butcher keeps some Jersey cattle, and the dog is very much attached to one young heifer and will not leave the animal, staying right beside her for days. About twice a week the dog will come home but after being fed will go right back to the pasture and lie down beside the cow. Mr. Butcher has known the dog to remain in the pasture for five days without coming home. The dog is beginning to show the result of his devotion as there is very little left of him but his hide and bones.—Sun.

J. G. Taylor, rancher in the Oak Lake district, has had to go to Brandon Hospital to be treated for blood poisoning. Some time ago while doctoring a sick calf, some poisonous stuff got into a cut in his hand.



Sweepstakes Clydesdale Stallion, Border Riever [2307].

The Toronto Horse Show.

This show closed on May 7th and though the turnout of the class of horses in which farmers are or ought to be most interested was not large, owing to the season of service having commenced, the quality of those that did compete was up to the mark. Only two Shires showed. In the Clydesdale class, Robt. Davies' King's Own [2172], by Queen's Own, dam Candour, was 1st in the aged stallion class, beating his half-brother, McQueen. King's Own is a well known horse in the Toronto prize ring, of good pedigree and good bone and action, with feet and pasterns of the best. In the 3-year-old stallion class, Mr. Davies was again 1st with Border Riever [2307], bred by Lord Polwarth, better known for his champion Shorthorns and century old flock of Border Leicesters. His sire, Prince of Millfield (9650), was a phenomenal colt, son of Orlando and grandson of Prince of Wales. His dam, Connie Nairn (11567), is also by Prince of Wales. Border Riever is rich in the best blends of Prince of Wales and Darnley blood, and was successful in hot competition at home before coming to Canada. Reared on the rocky soil of Brotherstone, he is bound to wear well in Canada and he is particularly strong in the thighs and arms, with good back and graceful action. The horses placed below him, The General, by Queen's Own, and imported Goldfinder 2nd, were also choicely bred and good in quality. In 2-year-olds, Mr. Davies was again 1st with Tom Macgregor [2313], by Macgregor (1487), out of Jenny Bell (2595), by Tom (877), 2nd dam Susie (297), by Cairn Tom (117). He is a rich bay in color, stripe on face, hind legs white below hocks, and hind feet white. To Border Riever was also awarded sweepstakes. Mr. Davies may justly be proud of his Clydesdales and their achievements. The three best are all illustrated in this issue.

Irishman (at telephone)—"Sind me up tree bales of hay and wan bag of oats." Feed-dealer—"All right. Who for?" Irishman—"There now, don't get gay. For the horse, av coorse."



Why are we constantly being pestered by canvassers to take a farm paper, is the question a certain class of people sometimes ask. We see nothing in it and therefore can take little profit out of it. These are the very people that need a paper most, and it is their misfortune as well as their fault that they can make so little of it. They grub along in the same old groove, the land getting poorer and the crops meaner all the time, and somebody, perhaps he does not live just in their own parish, who does things differing from theirs, and gets bigger things out of his work, has been questioned by a skilled interviewer, who puts the essence of it all in words, that every man in the same line would be glad to know, if he has any sense at all. The successful man is learning all the time. He picks up good ideas wherever he can find them, reduces them to practice the first opportunity, and if they see nothing in the print that tells his methods, they must be verging on imbecility if they cannot see in his fields and stock the profits his methods bring him. The other day, in company of one of these non-reading men, I passed a capital steer. "That must belong to neighbor so-and-so," remarked my companion, "he is the only man that I know that can afford to keep a three-year-old steer." I happen to know that he has, besides good cattle, a few hundred bushels of wheat in his barn, and his cheque is as good as hard money. Yet this lucky man in a poor neighborhood started not a very long time ago with next to nothing. Out of nothing, nothing can come, is an old Latin maxim, but there was the learning faculty in that young chap's head, and by steadiness and perseverance he has made himself practically independent though he had hardly any cash capital. He is a walking object lesson, and his stock and crops are an object lesson so plain that

you cannot get past their meaning, even if you fail to profit by them.

R.M.W.

Crystal City District.

Last fall I made a call on Jas. Yule at Prairie Home, the farm of Hon. Thos. Greenway, noting a few things in his programme that I felt might be of interest to other practical farmers. For this is not a toy farm or a mere show place. There are a good few very common buildings being turned to account, just as men of more limited means would be expected to do, while all the time some new buildings are being added, that are really of such importance as to be in a sense absolutely necessary to any farm worked on the same scale. For example, I found the foundations being put in for a wagon scale on which, if wished, every load could be weighed off hand, while instead of the cheap sheds in which a big lot of pure and graded swine have been and are now being bred and fed, there was



Aged Clydesdale

very shortly be put up a substantial stone piggery 80x30 feet. These same sheds will be used to accommodate feeding cattle in loose boxes much the same as I have been all my life familiar with, in the southeast of Scotland. In this country great faith is put in dehorning, but over there we had well-behaved beasts that made good gains and paid big rents before dehorning was thought of.

One rather costly arrangement is now on Mr. Yule's programme. In the centre of his stackyard he will fit up a good big turntable on which a thrashing outfit all roofed in will be fitted. The grain from over 600 acres of crop will be hauled in and stacked round this centre, and as the separator does its work the table will be turned round till the whole is cleared off. Here, again, will be close approximation to old country methods. On the big border farms, where I did building contracts forty years ago, no more grain was thrashed than would serve a few days for even the fat cattle ate a good deal of straw and it was thought very poor feed if it lay unused above a fortnight. By this plan of thrashing from the inside of

circle it would be easy to try the Scotch plan instead of threshing the whole produce at once, as is the universal practice here.

Perhaps I might mention now the method of fertilizing followed on this farm where some fields must have been pretty freely cropped. A good breadth is manured each season after the rush of seeding is past, the same sort of land that would elsewhere be summerfallowed. Here the manure is spread rather liberally and plowed in with a good deep furrow. Over this a crop of barley is sown pretty late, to be cut as green feed. The wheat that follows this is not fed by filching from the substance of the land, and a capital crop is got with very easy cultivation. On the estate, now covering 1700 acres, there is a large extent of pasture, and though at date of writing the soil is very hot and dry, land made hearty by manuring in regular rotation will stand a pretty severe spell of dry weather. One good night's rain, which I expect to see within ten days of the Queen's Birthday, would start a wonderful rush of vegetation, not only on this land, but on all



g's Own [2172].

land where it is reasonable to look for a crop. Very few farmers can be expected to feed the quantity of stock on the premier's farm, but my point here is that every farmer ought to recognize the fact that our best soils cannot stand grain cropping for ever, and the poorer the land the more need to see what it needs to keep it worth living on. On every class of soil it is only by trying to follow the example of manuring set by the best farmers everywhere in Manitoba that we can expect to get the profit and provincial prestige we should all aspire to.

The manure intended for this year's use, about 700 loads, was hauled out in winter as made and piled in three large heaps to rot. It is well rotted now and will be spread over about 50 acres that will need no more for about five years to come.

Last fall I hinted that if Mr. Yule could take a good crop of lambs from the show sheep he had then in hand, I would call him a very good sheepman. He has gone a good way beyond my expectations, for there is not a barren ewe in the lot, and many of them have twins. Some were good sized lambs. Owing to the loss of

the imported ram, Guardian, last fall, during Mr. Yule's absence, some lambs are late, but after the death of Guardian, Mr. Yule was fortunate in getting from John Campbell an imported ram lamb and his stock, though late, ought to show well up later in the day. This flock numbers only 20 ewes, many of them with twins, and all strong, a very rare thing with high conditioned sheep.

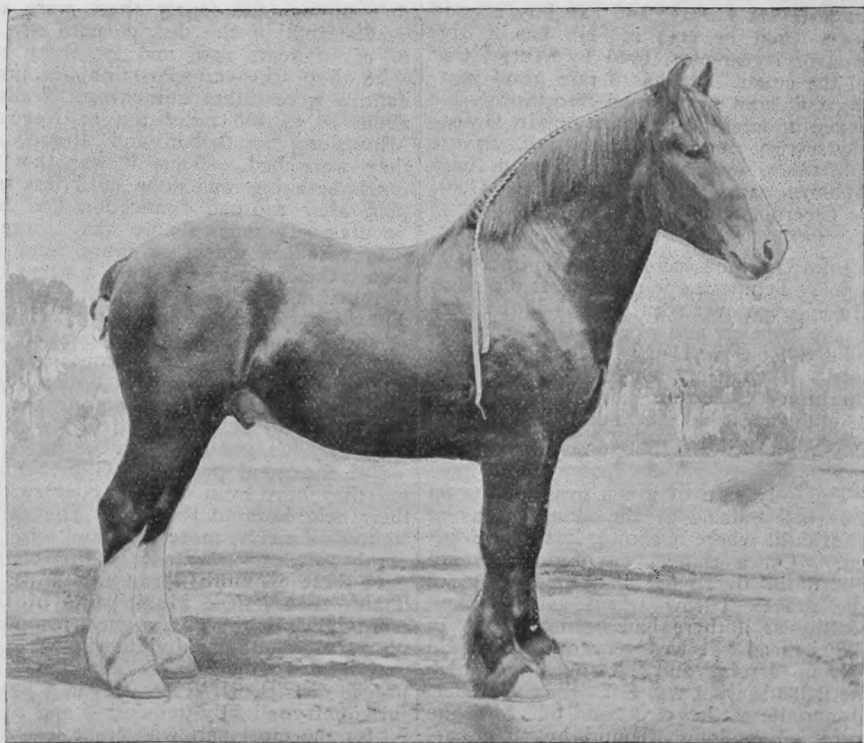
The swine stock is much more extensive, mostly Yorkshires, some Berks, and in fair breeding condition. One sow had 18 pigs, a yield I never before heard of here and rarely reached even by Sanders Spencer. Some old familiars, such as Andrew Graham's first prize boar, are to be seen, but there are recruits from the east as well, one boar 700 lbs. weight. Porkers of best bacon style are coming along all the time, and in spite of dear feed, must in one way or other pay their way.

So far only a working stamp of horses has been kept, but we may expect soon to hear of toppy Clydes finding a place. Timothy hay is their staple feed, but I shall expect to see brome in bulk by and by. A rather light stand of timothy has been seeded with a bushel of oats to the acre.

The premier has had his own share of loss lately by prairie fire, destroying all the hay he had out. A large amount of natural hay was put up, but heavy milking Ayrshires are rather thinner than showyard critics would approve. Most of these clearly show choice milking form, the spinal column showing in the most approved fashion. But it is on Shorthorns that the stock reputation of this farm must mainly rest. It is not my business to tell tales out of school, the Industrial must not be forestalled, but I may, in closing, at least mention one or two of the plums. When this herd puts in its claims at Winnipeg, I expect it will be worth a good deal to the reputation of not only the province, but of all Canada, to see it in full dress parade. Mr. Yule does not attempt to put all his goods in the window by any means, he is not exactly in that style, but I count on his placing a quarter hundred of Shorthorns alone, that very few of the best and biggest herds of the States or Canada can put in the shade. The solid old bull Hil-

ary, which Purvis Thomson put at the top of the class two years ago, will this year come out in his very strongest form. But the star of this great herd will be the two year old light roan, Judge (23419), got by Royal Sailor, one of the very best sires on the continent to-day. Judge stood second at Toronto as a calf and last fall first as a yearling at Toronto and London. His dam, Mildred, was a prize taker in the milk contest at the Provincial stock show at Guelph, and her sire, Hospodar, imported by Jas. I. Davidson, proved such a choice sire that he was taken back to head a leading herd in Scotland. Judge is not just perfect in beef form, a little slack behind the shoulders. That will fill up much as he gets older, but I have seen no bull of his age in my time that I like better. Mr. Yule will show two aged herds, also under 2 years, and a herd of calves. Leading the youngsters will be Duke of Hamilton (26990), full of promise and of choice breeding as well. Daisy of Strathallan 12th is a 3-year-old from a family known all over Canada. Missie 142 (Imp.)—(23022), an unbeaten 5-year-old cow, bred by the late W. S. Marr, is a choice example of Aberdeenshire breeding. Mr. Greenway's favorite cow Gladness will not be shown this year, as she is suckling a fine heifer calf by Hilary. Bridal Belle, last year's 2nd as 2-year-old, will come again, and Roan Mary 3rd at same age, but Yule has what he considers a still better in Freda, which I think pretty likely. The 2-year-old, Gem of Athelstane, will appear also if nothing happen her, but she looked like having a calf, rather a disadvantage in the show ring. Starling, another 2-year-old out of Scottish Belle, will be fit to fill the gap if needed. The red cow Village Flower will appear with her beautiful heifer calf, Prairie Flower. Space forbids further details. I noticed that every female fit to breed has had a calf, all in good health and thrifty. One line more for the Ayrshire bull, Surprise of Burnside, bred by Daniel Drummond, Petit Cote, and still unbeaten.

Since the above was written Mr. Greenway has bought some choice cattle in the east. The most noteworthy are Caithness, a noted Shorthorn, from A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, also a yearling bull that



Two-Year-Old Clydesdale Stallion, Tom Macgregor [2313].

will be shown at Winnipeg, and a fine heifer calf. From H. Smith, Hay, Ont., the grand show cow, Vanity, 1st at Toronto show last fall. Along with his own purchases, Mr. Yule will bring up a splendid team of draft mares for Jas. McKenzie, M.P.P., bought from J. I. Davidson and two females (Shorthorn) for F. W. Brown, Portage la Prairie. Before leaving home Mr. Yule sold some well-bred Shorthorns to Hoff Bros. Maclean, N.D. Pity they did not stay nearer home.

* * *

I made a run ten miles east of Crystal City to call on friends less publicly known than the premier, but capital farmers all the same. Wm. Werry was long one of the best breeders of heavy drafts in the Province, and he and his sons cultivate a big area of grain. He was a winner also in the coaching class at the Industrial, and has as an experiment a very fine colt out of one of his roomy Shire mares by a thoroughbred horse. Had this mare been a leggy Clyde I should have had more hope of the blend, but it is a good colt now and will be worth looking after four years from now. Mr. Werry has sold lots of good colts around, but I think the Shire type is probably less popular as a general purpose horse here than a Clyde that weighs 250 lbs. less.

* * *

James Gosnell is another man that likes good farm horses and has fed a lot of good bees for Gordon & Ironsides. Last winter he only fed his own cattle, a fortunate thing for him. He has a rare good young bull, bred by Hon. John Dryden, with some big names in his pedigree. This bull was brought up by Mr. Yule.

* * *

Purvis Thomson is one of the solid men of the south with a section of good land, all well fenced, buildings that were not all put up before 1882 and good all round stock. Let me say in passing, I don't admire the farmers that rub along with the same old buildings I knew 15 years ago, drive to town in the same old ruts and have hardly an acre of land fenced. Mr. Thomson has still the good old homesteading log building put on his place 20 years ago, but he is building right along and cleared, I am told, \$3000 off his last year's work, and can buy a good beast when he sees it. He has a 3400 team of 7-year-olds, bred by Werry, that fill the collar. He has a rare good yearling colt, and some good Shorthorns. He picked up lately in the barn of Mr. Greenway a very choice red bull calf, Prairie Sportsman, by Scottish Sportsman, imp. (17108), dam Molly Hamilton (15790), by Cicero (imp.).

* * *

John Oughton has lately gone into Holsteins. Tempest, one of the best old cows of the breed ever seen here, is at the head of the females, and one of Glennie's best bulls, a son of Daisy Teake, heads the herd. I expect something from Mr. Oughton's Shropshires, and he may do good business at the Industrial with his ewes and lambs.

* * *

The only sign of green grass I saw on the road outside of the sloughs was at Thornhill, where a shower may have fallen. On a thin layer of soil east of Thornhill, overlying a deep deposit of fine gravel, I saw wheat as fresh and healthy as if there had been two feet of clay instead. It was very dry at Crystal City in October and the only bite now in the fields is what was left over then. The Mennonite cattle get a good bite from the half alkaline sloughs round, but so far pasture on drier land was on May 24th as dry and late as ever I saw it before.

I did not have time to call at the creamery, but learned that like all other creameries this spring, the lack of rain is discounting their operations. The premier is most anxious to do his share as a patron, but after a week's hunt in the vicinity of Burnside, Mr. Yule only got a dozen cows, more like good beef Shorthorns, most of them, than true dairy cows. The Lynch style of breeding is perceptible on the Portage Plains everywhere, in big sappy cows, but on dry pasture they won't fill a very big pail. Poor pasture may improve any day, but I find it don't pay to keep men in from the field an hour every morning to milk cows and very few men care to do it. High priced grain will dry up the creamery quite as fast as dry weather does the cows.

* * *

If I had had a few hours more time I should have made a run southward to review the winter feeding operations of the well known Shilson family. One of them sent in 3 steers that netted him \$200, and though it takes a good deal of hay and chop to build a \$65 steer, still he is worth looking at when he is built.

R. W.M.

Dauphin and Gilbert Plains.

The mention of these names is all that is necessary to awaken interest with those who are watching the immigration and settlement of our country. A Farmer reporter paid this district a short visit the latter part of May and knew as soon as he struck the town that a good deal of healthy progress is being made. Think of a town of over 600 people, with good buildings, lots of life and trade, and a great deal of building going on, and all on a site where a large field of wheat was harvested a year ago last autumn—and you have Dauphin. The soil in this district is very deep, averaging probably fully 18 or 20 inches. It is also very strong, and in some places the heaviest land I have seen in Manitoba. The country is a very pretty one for all the rivers (and there are three or four within a few miles of the town), are fringed with splendid timber of various kinds. The country is getting pretty well settled to quite a distance from the centres. Of course there were very few farmers in the district until say six or seven years ago, and for those who were there the transportation accommodations were rather uninviting. Trails of about 80 to 100 miles ran to Neepawa, Minnedosa, Strathclair and Russell and they were bad. Thus it was that not much breaking was done until last summer, after railroad connection had been secured. It is probable that there is fully twice as much, or more, land into wheat this year as last, yet a great deal of breaking is being done this summer, and the shipments of grain from this part of the Province will be no small item in a year or two. A very encouraging fact which one could not help noticing was that the universal verdict among the farmers was:—"Well, I'm satisfied with the country. It's good enough for me."

But the good people of Gilbert Plains say they have even a better country than their neighbors to the east. The soil is lighter as a rule, more even and with less scrub to clear away. It is also claimed that there is more wheat raised on the Plains than in the Municipality of Dauphin. But, by the way, a great many people are deceived into judging by the name and thinking that the Gilbert Plains is a prairie district. It is not. It is a beautiful country, slightly undulating and covered for the most part with light scrub and with very many exceedingly pretty poplar bluffs. Here the lack of market facilities

has held the farmers back also, in fact, their one cry at present is for a line of railway, either from the Lake Dauphin road, or some other line. They deserve it, and must certainly get better accommodation in this respect, and that right early. The principal question which they are anxious about at present is the date when it will come. With the splendid natural advantages which it enjoys, the Plains cannot but be a great district in a few years. It is pleasing to note that there are the right kind of people in these places, and the taste shown in arranging grounds and gardens around some of the houses, though they are perhaps rather crude as yet, shows that the people are not dead to the charms of beauty. Some of the farmers are going in for quite an assortment of small fruits.

G. B.



Vanity in women is forgivable. It was Nature's intention that woman should be vain of her personal appearance, and the woman who fails of this fails of her full womanhood. No woman should be satisfied to go through the world with a complexion made hideous by unsightly blotches, pimples and eruptions. No woman should be satisfied to have a sallow, sickly complexion.

The remedy for these conditions does not lie in cosmetics. Skin disease is caused by impurities in the blood, and by nervous disorders due to weakness and disease of the distinctly feminine organism. Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the greatest of all known blood-purifiers. It not only drives all impurities from the life-stream, but fills it with the rich, life-giving elements of the food. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription acts directly on the delicate and important organs that bear the burdens of wifehood and motherhood. It makes them pure, strong, well and vigorous. A course of these two great medicines will transform a weak, sickly, nervous, despondent woman, who suffers from unsightly eruptions of the skin, into a healthy, happy, amiable companion, with a skin that is clear and wholesome. These medicines are made from herbs and roots, and contain no minerals of any description. They simply assist the natural processes of assimilation, secretion and excretion. Medicine dealers sell them.

It is a druggist's business to give you, not to tell you, what you want.

"About four years ago," writes Thomas Harris, of Wakefield Station, Sussex Co., Va., "my daughter Helen was afflicted with eczema in a distressing form. Dr. Pierce's medicines cured her after all other remedies had failed."

In sending for a free copy of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, enclose 31 one-cent stamps, to cover customs and mailing only, if a paper-covered copy is desired, or 50 stamps for cloth-binding. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Lawe, Henry,	"		

By order,

J. W. HARRIS, Secretary,

P. L. S. Association.

N.B.—The practice of surveying in Manitoba by any other persons is illegal, and renders them liable to prosecution.

By the Way.

A SUCCESSFUL BEE KEEPER.

To call upon any intelligent farmer is a pleasure, but when that particular person is a keeper of the busy bee and one is asked to sample the product, the privilege truly becomes a sweet one. In May the writer called upon Dauphin's bee keeper, Alired Maynard, and took a look through his apiary to see how everything was humming there. Mr. Maynard came to Dauphin four years ago, and took to that place with him one hive, over 100 miles of rough roads. There was something else he brought with him, and that was experience, for he had been an old Ontario bee keeper, hailing even from that old nest of bee keepers—Beeton. Now he has several colonies and claims he has had better success in Dauphin than in Ontario. The bees have been healthier, probably on account of the dryness of the atmosphere, and he has been able to gather more honey per colony here than in the east. In direct opposition to the idea that some persons hold that bees are hard to winter here, Mr. Maynard says he has found them easier here than he ever did in Ontario—in fact, that he has never lost a colony here. As to the amount of the toothsome product which he had been able to gather, he said that he had found an average of 56 pounds of first-class honey per hive per season. At the time of my visit the bees were busily working on the willow. Mr. Maynard claims that in Ontario the season's work is largely confined to three or four flows, while here on account of the diversity of plants which the country furnishes, the flow is almost, if not quite, unbroken the season through. When asked the intensely practical question, which strikes the tender spot in nearly all of us:—"Does it pay?" Mr. Maynard readily replied: "Why, certainly it does. I would not be without bees if they cost me twice the amount of their usual selling price. I can make more money from ten hives of bees than from that many cows. Yes, it pays well." He is a man who also thinks that whatever is worth keeping for profit may as well be made pay as much as possible, so he has secured a few bronze turkeys and is going into thoroughbred stock in this line.

* * *

COLD STORAGE.

It is said to be a good plan to strike while the iron is hot. It may not be amiss to strike when the weather is hot, to say a few words about the matter of cold storage. The laying up of a supply of ice for the summer months is a matter which only a very few of our farmers ever attend to, yet the great convenience which a store of ice means can only be properly appreciated by those who have ever enjoyed its benefits. A great many will say: "Why, we can't afford such luxuries as that. The scheme is all right for big farmers, but not for us." Why not? Now that the warm weather is here you will the more readily admit that a quantity of last winter's ice would be a very nice thing to have. A small outlay of labor would have supplied it. We need have no trouble in this Manitoba climate to find a place where it freezes thickly enough, goodness knows! It is not necessary to have a castle in which to store it. Almost any building will answer for that purpose, and where no better accommodation can be secured a large dry-goods box can be fitted with double walls, kept in the shade, and made to furnish first-class cold storage for a good many small articles. Some farmers who sell their butter in the summer for comparatively small

figures could easily provide themselves with sufficient storage capacity to enable them to hold their produce through the season and thereby obtain quite an advance in price. Many persons in town who have not one-half the need of ice that the farmer has, find it worth while to get a daily supply of the frigid product and pay good hard money for it. There is a small proportion of the farmers who annually provide themselves with this in expensive luxury and a visit to one of these hot June days to one of these places should be enough to convince anyone as to the advantages which a good supply of ice means to the farmer. As you wipe the perspiration from your brow and wonder how you are going to keep your butter from running all over the place, just keep cool, by thinking of the supply of ice you will secure next winter.

* * *

GOOD PURE DRINKING WATER.

The commonest blessings we enjoy are generally the greatest. There is water over two-thirds of this old earth, yet there are some few places where it is next thing to impossible to get anything fit to drink. And, worse still, some of these very places are not further away than Manitoba or the Northwest Territories. Knowing this, I have been looking for some time for the best process of filtering or purifying drinking water. J. W. Shepherd, of Gilbert Plains, recently gave me his experience with bad water in another part of the country. The only available supply was that of a small slough, and in hot weather it became quite undrinkable. He dug a drain of one hundred yards and filled it with gravel and sand and allowed the water to filter through this and be drawn off as needed. He found the arrangement perfectly satisfactory and secured a vastly different quality of water at the outlet than went in at the top. No doubt the scheme could be improved upon by using a little charcoal at the lower end. There are many spots where a contrivance similar to the one described (only on a scale to suit the circumstances) could be used to advantage. It is not a small blessing to have good water to drink, and if we have not got it, and can improve what we have got in any way, it is surely worth the attempt. A few small mounds would be saved from some of our cemeteries, if a little more attention was given to the matter than it receives at the hands of some people. Any farmer who has not good water and can get it, should not be satisfied without it.

* * *

CLEANLINESS ON THE FARM.

Professor J. W. Robertson sometimes tells of a locality in Quebec which he once visited where the farmers' houses and places were remarkable for their scrupulous cleanliness and sweetness. The houses were nearly all log buildings and all were whitewashed inside and out and kept in good order. The secret, he found, was that the parish priest once a year used to preach what he called a "whitewash sermon." I have been taking stock lately of some of the Manitoba farmers' homes and have been wondering whether some of the people do not need a series of whitewash sermons. A good many of the young married couples start out in small rough houses and they often seem to lose their natural pride of home and drift into carelessness and even slovenliness. Then, again, many of the men "bach it" for a few years on the start and this sometimes induces careless habits which are much more easily contracted than eradicated. The lives of the farmer and his wife are certainly busy ones, but the outlay of work and care necessary to main-

tain their place in order and sweetness can never bring aught but satisfaction. Dirt is poisonous; whitewash isn't. How long does it take to put a coat of it on inside and outside, and how much better looking your house is for the operation! If you have a log house, remember that the wash doesn't cost a fortune and it is not hard to apply. We are not all born artists, but most of us pride ourselves that we can manipulate the small end of a whitewash brush at least. Then a good coat is almost, if not quite, as good a preservative as a coat of paint; the lime fills up cracks and makes the building snug and warm in winter, but, on account of the color, the heat in summer is reflected and the house is rendered cooler. Warm in winter; cooler in summer! These results should be enough to decide anyone in favor of whitewash vs. dirt. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," they say, but if some people's Godliness is just the next virtue in advance of their cleanliness they will leave a rather shady record behind them when they shuffle off this mortal coil. Perhaps if a few more of the clergy would take a leaf out of the notebook of the reverend gentleman referred to and devote one sermon in every fifty-two to plain lime and water whitewash the results might be refreshing.

* * *

A HANDY CONTRIVANCE.

Sometimes when colts are let run rather long or tied it is quite a job to halter-break them. If we commence by tying them to something solid there may be more halter-breaking than we care for. Mr. Dunn, of Dauphin, has a very simple apparatus which he thinks is a good one. He has a post fastened firmly into the ground and rising to a height of about six feet. A strong pole or long plank is placed across the top and fastened by a strong bolt entering the top of the post in such a way that the pole or plank will revolve like the arms of a horse power. The colt is tied to the end of the pole. Whichever way he runs the pole turns, and so he tires himself out without getting away. There is only one way he can get a straight pull and that is by drawing straight from the post, but Mr. Dunn says that so long as the pole turns and lets him go around without a hard pull, the colt will never strain his neck by a straight draw.

* * *

Speaking of vegetation, we'd like to know of anyone who can beat the oak leaf shown a Farmer reporter by Donald Stewart, of Westbourne, and which the genial old Scotchman had found growing on his farm. Our tape showed it to be 11½ inches long and 7 inches in width.

* * *

While in Westbourne the other day the writer took a look through the splendid ranch stables of Senator Sanford—large, well-equipped buildings, but nearly all empty. The Senator owns about 80,000 acres of ranching lands around there, and once kept a great deal of stock, both of horses and cattle. Of late years he has been going out of the business, until now there are only a comparatively small number kept, while the lands are for sale. Quite a deal of grain is being grown. They have a few very nice pigs, a cross between Tamworth and Berkshires, and find they do well. The ranch is under the able management of Geo. Davey, sen. It seems a pity to see such fine buildings lying idle. Small farmers all say: "Oh, if we had the money we could make lots more of it," but this place naturally sets one to wondering if "big farming" pays so well as the small, after all.

G. B.



The Fairchild Co., Ltd., have a change of ad. in this month's issue. Read it. Back cover.

The St. Boniface Woollen Mills are paying the highest market price for good clean wool.

Send your name and address to Smith & Burton, Brandon, for their grocery catalogue, which is sent for the asking.

America's greatest medicine is Hood's Sarsaparilla, which cures when all other preparations fail to do any good whatever.

J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg, are paying the highest cash price for hogs weighing from 150 to 250 lbs., live weight. Write for quotations.

The prize list of the Portage la Prairie summer fair amounts to nearly \$3,500, the increase in prizes being principally in the live stock classes.

Why don't you try Carter's Little Liver Pills? They are a positive cure for sick headache, and all the ills produced by disordered liver. Only one pill a dose.

There are many forms of nervous debility in men that yield to the use of Carter's Iron Pills. Those who are troubled with nervous weakness, night sweats, etc., should try them.

"A spirited horse needs harness that is absolutely reliable. A weak spot would precipitate a fatality." So say Peirce Bros., Winnipeg. So say we all. See ad. in this issue.

See the new J. I. Case Traction Engine on page 280 this issue. D. B. Macleod, general agent, Winnipeg, will be only too pleased to send catalogue, giving full description upon request.

The new Dutton Knife Grinder, which does not destroy a new section by grinding an old one, will pay for itself every year it is in operation. John Watson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Winnipeg, sell it wholesale aid retail. Ask for particulars.

If you are contemplating getting a new carriage of any kind, drop a postal to the McLaughlin Carriage Co., Oshawa, Ont., who will send you free an 86 page catalogue showing the different varieties, with but "one grade only, and that the best."

Haying will soon be with us again and it would not be amiss to look over the old mower and rake in good time. If you are in need of a new one, see the New No. 8 Mower that Frost & Wood, Winnipeg, are offering, before buying elsewhere. It is strong, durable, efficient and simple, and has roller and ball bearings. The Tiger Hay Rake, also sold by this firm, is second to none in the market.

The David Bradley Manufacturing Co. Bradley, Ill., manufacturers of agricultural implements, are contemplating the placing of their goods on the Western Canada markets. G. H. Francis, their representative, was in Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and Brandon last week with that end in view. The president of the company, David Bradley, is one of the pioneer manufacturers of implements in America, having started in Chicago in 1834. The business grew to such an extent that it was found necessary to locate 56 miles from Chicago, and the new town was called Bradley.

All who are interested in butter making should write to Messrs. Wilson Bros., Collingwood, for their circular advertising the "Maple Leaf" churn. In addition to pointing out the advantages of this excellent new churn the circular contains some hints on butter making, which are not only well worth reading, but should be learned by heart by every farmer or dairyman who wants to excel in producing butter. You may know all that it says, but yet it is good to have the matter brought to mind again. Wilson Bros. will be glad to send the sheet free and post paid to any who may apply and mention this paper.

July 11 to 16—one week—is the 1898 date of Western Canada's Great Industrial Fair, to be held at Winnipeg. Paste the date in your hat, so that you will not forget it. There will be something there to interest everyone. \$15,000 will be distributed in prize money. Entries for which close July 2. Upon request to the general manager you will receive an illustrated programme of attractions and prize list. Cheap railway fares from all points and free transportation for exhibits are two good reasons why our Western people should attend. While you are in the City, fair week, take a run out on the electric railway to Elm Park.

We have received a very handsome wall calendar from the E. B. Eddy Co., manufacturers of matches, woodenware, etc., Hull, Canada. The calendar embraces from April, 1898, to January, 1900, and different views of various cities in Canada and Newfoundland are exhibited. Amongst those shown of Winnipeg are the old Fort Garry gateway, the City Hall and volunteers' monument, a view of Main street, also the agency of the company. It is both useful and ornamental and would adorn the walls of the best appointed home. The E. B. Eddy Co. will send a copy post free to any of our readers applying for same, so long as the supply lasts.

There is an old saying that "Thirteen" is an unlucky number, but the contrary of this has been proven with Stephens' ready-mixed paints. They have now had a test of over thirteen years with the result that each year's output has exceeded the preceding one, until the present time, when it is safe to say that there is more of Stephens' paints sold in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories than all other makes combined. This is, of course, as it should be, for these paints are made in Western Canada. Write G. F. Stephens & Co., Winnipeg, for color cards and prices, and don't forget to mention having seen their advertisement in The Nor'-West Farmer.

The Brandon Fair people are already getting things into shape for their annual exhibition to be held July 19th to 22nd. Contracts have been let for a new horse stable to cost over \$2,500, a new dairy building at \$296, and new cattle stables at \$776. The grand stand is to be remodelled and enlarged by an addition of 50 feet. The City of Brandon has granted \$100 towards putting up a windmill and tank to supply all parts of the grounds with abundance of pure water. The Royal Canadian Dragoons are to give their celebrated musical ride and a programme of military sports, and other attractions is being arranged for. Farmers should strain a point and take in this exhibition and pay a visit to the Experimental Farm. Entries close July 16th.

President McKinley is to be given the unique distinction of having a number of a woman's magazine named for him and prepared in his honor. The July issue of The Ladies' Home Journal is to be called "The President's Number." It will

show the President on horseback on the cover, with the President's new "fighting flag" flying over him; a new march by Victor Herbert is called "The President's March;" the State Department has allowed the magazine to make a direct photograph of the original parchment of the Declaration of Independence, while the President's own friends and intimates have combined to tell some twenty new and unpublished stories and anecdotes about him which will show him in a manner not before done. The cover will be printed in the National colors.

With the farmer the fence problem has always been a burning question. It is a greater problem to-day than it has ever been, because under the present system of rotating crops, smaller fields are required; and this being an age of sharp competition, the farmer sees the necessity to cut down the expenses of the farm. When we consider the cost of material and the time required to build the fences and to keep them in repair, we are forced to the conclusion that the fences of the farm are the most costly necessity about it. Hence the question of reducing the cost of fencing the farm is always in order. The farmer wants a fence that will not harbor gophers and insects, which will prey upon his crops; a fence that will not shade the ground and give protection to noxious weeds to seed his farm; a fence that will not blow down; a fence that will not burn down; a fence that will not rot down; a fence that will not wash away; a fence that takes up as little ground as possible; a fence that holds the stock where he puts in; a fence that will not cause the snow to drift, blocking the gates, lanes, and public highways; a fence that is cheap and at the same time durable; in short, a fence that is horse high, bull strong, and pig tight. All of these qualities are combined in the Carter fence. And the general agent for Manitoba, Fred. Smith, Brandon, will be pleased to give full particulars as to cost of machine, etc., to all enquirers. Mention The Farmer when writing.

Law vs. Justice.

At the Selkirk County Court recently was tried a case, Millidge vs. Cummings, an action on a thresher's bill. The defence was that the weighing or measuring apparatus used on plaintiff's threshing machine was not duly stamped by the Government official. This was held a good defence and verdict for defendant. Every one knows that threshing is a kind of work that must be done very rapidly if it is to be done economically. If the measurement of the work were to be done as the law directs it would add about 20 per cent. to the cost, and by general consent a mode of measurement is followed by all threshers, easy and at the same time perfectly fair to all parties. But every now and then the honest thresher gets a rude reminder that by so doing he puts himself outside the pale of the law's protection. Some unprincipled individual, knowing the legal point in his favor, refuses to pay, and if the thresher sues him, as in this case, he loses his case and all the expenses incurred through the trial. The law as it stands is very good and necessary for all ordinary transactions. But for threshing it is a decided encumbrance and encouragement to snide dealing on the part of the farmer, and the only wise course would be to have a clause added to the present statute accepting thresher's measure. If any man wants his grain measured by the imperial bushel, as the present law directs, let him still have it so, provided he is willing to pay for the extra time involved in so doing.



While our columns are always open for the discussion of any relevant subject, we do not necessarily endorse the opinions of all contributors. Correspondents will kindly write on one side of the sheet only and in every case give the name—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. All correspondence will be subject to revision.

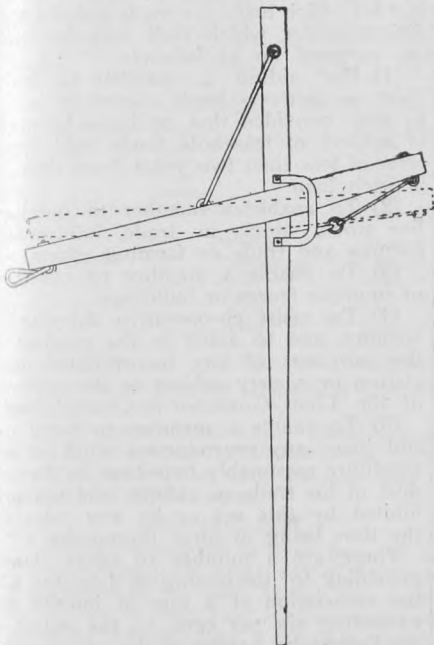
The Industrial Dairy Test.

Jas. Glennie, Orange Ridge, asks the meaning of the clause on page 65 of the Industrial Exhibition catalogue, class 21, milk test:—"1 point for each 10 days in milk after the first 20 days (limit 20 days)." It just means that the printer has omitted a very important cypher. The intended limit is 200 days. Beyond that time no further allowance will be made.

Four Horse Evener.

Sandy, Carberry, writes:—"I would like if you, or some of your many readers, would let me know of a good way to hitch four horses on to a binder so that there will be no side draught."

If the horses are put on tandem, that is, one team before another, there will be no strain or side draught to speak of. All the devices for "evening up" the draught are open to the same objection. A horse draws more when near the load, but in a hot day they crowd so badly on each other and the draught gets strained that in actual practice it is easiest to work with one team ahead of the other.



Such is the decided opinion of the leading men in the machine business here as well as our own. The Evener, here illustrated, is admitted by all who have examined it to be the very best ever yet tried. One such has been used by a farmer in the Springfield district for some time and he is well satisfied with its working. It is known as Lewis' patent and owned by Keller Bros., Sank Centre, Minnesota, who tried to introduce it here, but failed to get anyone willing to take chances of its success. It is certainly the best evener for the purpose of yoking four horses abreast yet tried. One horse is on the side, next the grain, and three outside.

For an old binder worn in the bearings it is a special benefit.

Alkali in Land and Water.

Enquirer, Dauphin:—(1) Would like to know through your columns if there has ever been found any practical way of neutralizing the alkali in drinking water and rendering it wholesome for domestic use.

Answer.—We do not know of any process by which alkali water can be rendered palatable. Your question will be sent to Professor Shutt at Ottawa for more definite information.

(2) Have a piece of bad alkali land which will not raise any ordinary grain crop. Is there any crop or method of cultivation which you could recommend to follow breaking to lessen the alkali and bring the land into use?

Answer.—If the land is plowed very deep the rain will wash down a considerable portion of the alkali which is generally in such cases only a surface deposit. Then manure liberally and sow oats, being careful to cultivate shallow for a year or two. Beets are the only crop that has a chance on alkaline land and you should try a few. If the field is sloping, you have a better chance to get rid of the excess alkali than if it is a low place.

Dairy Shorthorns.

P. C., Westbourne:—I read with interest an article on page 194 of the May number of The Farmer on "Dairy Shorthorns." Can you tell me the exact address of the John Evans mentioned, or can you give the addresses or any information as to any parties in Canada or the U.S. who have been breeding these animals?

Answer.—Mr. Evans, we believe, lives near Lincoln City Eng. Address him Breeder of Lincolnshire-Reds, Burton, Lincoln, Eng., and you will get him. If there are any of them on this side we have not heard.

Weed Seed Legislation a Fraud.

F. H. H. Lowe, Ninette, attacks the Noxious Weeds Act in the following trenchant style:—I see by The Farmer and other papers that the local house has forbidden the sale of elevator and mill screenings, even though crushed. I would like to ask our members if they think we farmers are going to buy screenings and sow our farms with weeds without taking some precautions to prevent them growing. Such laws are all bosh in any country, especially a boasted free one. Why not forbid a farmer to feed uncleaned oats? One is as sensible as the other. In fact, more so, because I have seen more seeds grow after going through a horse than did from screenings that were fed to hogs. I have fed screenings

from the Wawanesa mill off and on since it was built and have carefully watched pens and yards, but have not found anything more noxious than pig weeds. I have seen French weed on trails that grew out of horse droppings and as a horse usually goes farther than a pig, which is the most to be feared? Another reason why such laws are hard. This year is a year of scarce feed and we have to fall back on screenings for our hogs, and now some people that don't farm pass a law shutting off our supply of feed and then some agricultural paper, will cry in the fall, "Why do we have to import pork from the east and all our screenings go to waste?" I say, leave the farmer and his feed alone on a year like this, and keep yourselves talking about the wolf bounty act. Reduce that some more and then there will be something of a cry about scarce turkeys for Christmas. Better give some more money to railroads though, so the members can ride free. That is all right, but leave our wolves and seeds alone. I get my screenings crushed fine and soak twenty-four hours and have yet to find, as I said before, anything worse than pig weed. This will, I am sure, bring some criticism, but let it come, and perhaps you may stir up some more farmers who have had the same experience as myself and are dependent on mill screenings to feed our pigs.

Note.—Mr. Lowe is not far out in some of the points he makes. It would be interesting to note carefully the effect of scalding on such screenings. Cattle feed greedily all winter on pig weed seed as it stands and must take a lot of virtue out of it. Oats pass undigested if not properly masticated. Next!

Special Railroad Rates.

Anglo-Saxon, Woodrovd P.O., writes: "Will you please tell me through The Farmer if there are any special rates issued by the railway companies for intending settlers in Manitoba? If so, what the rates are, and also the rates per car of settlers' effects?"

Answer.—There are low rates of freight on settlers and their effects from the leading sources of immigration, such as Great Britain, Eastern Canada and the States. This enquirer and all others who need such information are advised to write Robt. Kerr, traffic manager of the C.P.R. at Winnipeg, stating the nature of the goods to be carried, the point of starting and destination for both goods and settlers. Mr. Kerr will at once furnish the requisite information.

For the convenience of patrons and increased business facilities, Fleming Bros., St. George, Ont., have established a Western Canada branch office in Winnipeg. All orders for their Lump Jaw Cure should be addressed to the Western branch.

WOOL ! WOOL !!

The St. Boniface Woolen Mills

Will pay the highest market price, in cash or goods, for all the good clean wool that is offered.

CUSTOM ROLL CARDING

done as usual. Good work guaranteed. Correspondence solicited.

JOHN RYAN, Proprietor.

Farmers' Institutes Programme.

The summer programme of Farmers' Institutes and meetings under the auspices of agricultural societies, as arranged by the Department of Agriculture and Immigration, will be held this year as follows:—

SPEAKERS AND DATES.

Group No. 1.—Messrs. Bedford and McLean—Souris, June 27, 7 p.m.; Pipestone, June 28, 1 p.m.; Reston, June 28, 7 p.m.; Hartney, June 29, 1 p.m.; Melita, June 30, 1 p.m.; Deloraine, July 1, 1 p.m.; Boissevain, July 2, 1 p.m.

Group No. 2.—Messrs. Usher, Hobson and S. J. Thompson—Killarney, June 27, 7 p.m.; Crystal City, June 28, 1 p.m.; Manitou, June 29, 1 p.m.; Morden, July 8, 7 p.m.

Group No. 3.—Dr. Young, D. A. Stewart and Hugh McKellar—Cartwright, June 27, organization meeting on arrival of train. Dr. Young and D. A. Stewart—Nelson, June 28, 7 p.m.; Holland, June 29, 4 p.m.; Cypress River, June 29, 7.30 p.m.; Carman, June 30, 7 p.m.; Glenboro, July 1, 7 p.m.; Little Mountain, July 2, 7 p.m.; McGregor, July 4, 1 p.m.; Austin, July 4, 7 p.m.

Group No. 4.—C. C. Macdonald and Dr. Torrance—Beausejour, June 27, 1 p.m.; Selkirk, June 27, 7 p.m.; Stonewall, June 28, 2 p.m.; Balmoral, June 28, 7 p.m.; Woodlands, June 29, 2 p.m.; Posen, June 30, 7 p.m. Messrs. McKenzie and Torrance—Rosser, July 2, 1 p.m.

Group No. 5.—Messrs. Fletcher and McKellar—Bird's Hill, June 30, 1 p.m.; Kildonan, June 30, 7 p.m. Messrs. Fletcher and Hobson—Dominion City, July 1, 1 p.m.; Emerson, July 1, 7 p.m.; St. Jean, July 2, 1 p.m.; Morris, July 2, 3.30 p.m.; Messrs. Hobson and McKellar—Wawanesa, July 4, 7 p.m. Messrs. Fletcher and McKellar—Baldur, July 4, 4 p.m.; Belmont, July 4, 7 p.m.

Group No. 6.—Messrs. Stevenson and Braithwaite—Oak Lake, June 27, 1 p.m.; Virden, June 27, 7 p.m.; Elkhorn, June 28, 1 p.m.; Arrow River, June 29, 1 p.m.; Hamiota, June 30, 1 p.m.; Bradwardine, July 1, 1 p.m.; Blyth, July 4, 1 p.m.

Group No. 7.—Messrs. Willson and McKenzie—Gladstone, June 27, 2 p.m.; Strathclair, June 28, 7 p.m.; Minnedosa, June 29, 7 p.m.; Rapid City, June 30, 2 p.m. Messrs. Willson and Usher—Neepawa, July 1, 7 p.m.; Carberry, July 2, 7 p.m.; Portage la Prairie, July 4, 1 p.m. Messrs. Willson and C. C. Macdonald—Shoal Lake, July 6, 7 p.m.; Birtle, July 7, 7 p.m.; Pilot Mound, July 11, 7 p.m.

Dauphin and Somerset—Special meetings for future consideration.

SUBJECTS OF ADDRESSES.

The subjects of the addresses will be generally as follows:—

Jas. Fletcher, L.L.D., Botanist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa—"Noxious Weeds."

D. W. Willson, Editor "Elgin Dairy Report," Elgin, Ill.—"Dairying as an adjunct to general farming;" "Dairying as a speciality."

John I. Hobson, President Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, Guelph—"General Stock Breeding and Intensive Farming."

Isaac Usher, Queenston, Ont.—"Cement and Concrete in building barns, etc."

C. C. Macdonald, Provincial Dairy Superintendent, Winnipeg—"Dairying, Care of Milk, Packing and Marketing Butter."

Chas. Braithwaite, Provincial Noxious Weed Inspector—"Noxious Weeds."

A. P. Stevenson, Horticulturist, Nelson—"Small Fruits and Gardening."

D. A. Stewart, Pilot Mound—"The Farmers' Potato Patch."

M. Young, V. S., Manitou—"Care of Stock in Sickness and in Health."

F. Torrance, B.A., D.V.S., Winnipeg—"General Care of Stock."

R. McKenzie, Brandon—"Some essentials to success in farming;" "Why Farming is preferable to other Callings."

S. A. Bedford, Superintendent Experimental Farm, Brandon—"Cultivation to prevent drifting of soil by winds."

H. S. Maclean, Normal School, Winnipeg—"Nature Study, Noxious Weeds, and the Teaching of Agriculture in Schools."

S. J. Thompson, Provincial Veterinarian, Carberry—"A Farmer's Garden."

Hugh McKellar, Chief Clerk, Dept. of Agriculture, Winnipeg—"Noxious Weeds and the enforcement of the Noxious Weeds Act."

For local farmers' institutes the meetings announced in this programme are their annual meetings. The business of the annual meeting, election of officers, receiving annual reports, etc., can be transacted before or after addresses, as arranged by directors. Where no institute exists the meeting will be in charge of the local agricultural society. Further advertising by posters, if thought necessary and securing hall must be arranged and paid for by local institutes, or by agricultural society interested. Farmers are requested to bring with them to meetings specimens of weeds found to be troublesome on their farms. Many of the meetings will be interesting and instructive to teachers and advanced pupils of schools and well worthy of attendance.

ROUND-UP AT BRANDON.

The annual meeting of the Central Farmers' Institute will be held in Brandon City Hall, on July 5, 6 and 7, as follows: Meeting of Directors, July 5, at 9 a.m.; regular meeting, July 5, at 1 p.m.; open meeting of institute speakers, Tuesday evening, at 7.30 p.m.; also Wednesday, at 9 a.m. Addresses to be delivered by Hon. Thos. Greenway, Messrs. John I. Hobson, Isaac Usher, Dr. Fletcher, D. W. Willson, S. A. Bedford and others. Wednesday afternoon: Farmers' Picnic at Experimental Farm, under the auspices of the Brandon Local Farmers' Institute. Wednesday evening, 7.30: Central Farmers' Institute Session. Thursday, 9 a.m. Closing session of the Central Farmers' Institute. Local institutes throughout the Province will kindly appoint delegates to Central Farmers' Institute, at their annual meetings. Delegates, on purchasing tickets, should take receipts, in order to secure reduced rates returning.

Cheap Money for B. C.

The local legislature of the Pacific province has put into legal form its project for providing money at cheap rates for the farmers. This law provides for the organization of Agricultural credit associations, which are authorized to work along the following lines:—

The objects for which an association may be incorporated under this act shall be to procure moneys by monthly or other contributions and deposits from the members thereof, and by means of loans upon debentures issued and guaranteed as hereinafter provided, and to lend the money so acquired at such rates of interest as the association may, subject to the provisions of this act and of the rules from time to time in force thereunder, determine to the members of the association only, and for the purpose of the aid and advancement of any such member in his trade or calling, and for no other purpose whatever.

The number of members and the num-

ber of shares in an association shall be unlimited; every member shall be a shareholder and no member shall hold, either in his own name or in the name of any other person in trust for him or otherwise howsoever, more than one hundred shares in the association.

The shares of the association shall not exceed in face value the sum of ten dollars each.

The rules of the association shall provide the amount of premium by way of membership fee or otherwise (not being less than five dollars in respect of each issue of a share or shares) to be charged upon the issue of shares, and the amount of calls to be levied pro rata upon the shares of the association for the cost of management thereof. (Sub-clauses of this provide for a deposit with the government of all premiums collected under this section and for recompensing the government for losses in assuming any liability of the association).

No loans shall be made by the association except to its members.

The rules of the association shall provide the manner in which and the terms and security upon which loans of the funds of the association shall be made to members thereof; provided that no loan shall be made to any member of an amount exceeding either the amount of the nominal value of the shares held by such member of the sum of one thousand dollars, whichever limit may be fixed by rules for the time being in force under this act or in default thereof by the rules of the association.

Every person becoming a member of the association shall be entitled to obtain loans from the society for specified and approved purposes within the limit prescribed, for such periods and for such interest as the society may determine.

The important feature of these associations is their lending powers. The object for which loans are made and the conditions under which they may be made are summed up as follows:

(1) For aiding a member to drain, clear or cultivate lands owned or leased by him; provided that no loans be made in respect of leasehold lands held for a term of less than two years from the time of such loan.

(2) To enable a member to purchase live stock, stock in trade, implements, fixtures and trade or farming effects.

(3) To enable a member to construct or improve fences or buildings.

(4) To assist co-operative dairying or farming, and to assist in the conduct of the purposes of any incorporated association or society subject to the approval of the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council; and

(5) To enable a member to carry out and incur any reproductive work or expenditure reasonably expedient in the conduct of his trade or calling, and not prohibited by this act or by any rules for the time being in force thereunder.

There are a number of other clauses providing for the issuing of debentures by the association at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent. to the extent of the borrowing powers of the organization. All debentures must be sold to the highest bidder. Arrangements are also made for the establishment of a reserve fund after the debts and liabilities of the association have been met. These with what we have quoted above are the chief features of the bill, and are sufficient to enable us to see what the objects of these associations are.

Friends of J. E. Smith, Brandon, will be gratified to learn that at the recent exams. held at Winnipeg, his son Archie got 1st prize scholarship worth \$120 for general proficiency. Good breeding will tell, J. E., every time.

Official Report on Crops and Live Stock in Manitoba.

Below we give information contained in bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture and Immigration in June, 1897, and June, 1898, as to the average and condition of the crops, live stock, etc., which is summarized from returns received from three hundred and fifty regular correspondents of the Department. We give the report of a year ago so that comparison may be made with that of the present year. The Province is divided into districts as follows:

The Northwestern district comprises the municipalities of Shell River; Boulton, Russell, Silver Creek, Rosburn, Ellice, Birtle, Shoal Lake, Strathclair, Harrison, Clan William, Archie, Miniota, Hamiota, Blanchard, Saskatchewan, Odanah, Dauphin and Gilbert Plains.

The South Western—Wallace, Woodworth, Daly, Elton, Cornwallis, Whitehead, Sifton, Pipestone, Glenwood, Oakland, Arthur, Winchester, Morton, Turbott Mountain, Cameron, Whitewater and Riverside.

The North Central—Rosendale, Lansdowne, Westbourne, North Cypress, North Norfolk, Langford, Portage la Prairie, St. Francois, Xavier, Woodlands, St. Laurent, Posen and Ochre River.

The South Central—South Cypress, South Norfolk, Dufferin, Rhineland, Stanley, Pembina, Lorne, Louise and Argyle.

The Eastern—Gimli, Rockwood, St. Andrews, St. Clements, St. Pauls, Springfield, Kildonan, St. Boniface, Assiniboia, Tache, Richot, De Salaberry, Hanover, La Broquerie, Franklin, Rosser, Morris, Montcalm and Macdonald.

AREA UNDER CROP, 1898.

District.	Wheat. acres.	Oats. acres.	Barley. acres.
North Western	122,600	88,162	15,400
South Western	595,134	168,882	32,454
North Central	305,224	89,155	31,302
South Central	374,614	113,000	51,334
Eastern	90,660	60,625	27,568

Province . . . 1,488,232 . . . 514,824 . . . 158,058

Total area under Flax . . . 14,561 acres.

" Rye . . . 3,198 "

" Peas . . . 1,594 "

" Corn . . . 1,195 "

" Brome . . . 973 "

" Buckwheat . . . 68 "

Potatoes. . . 2,200 acres . . . 1,400 acres.

N. W. District . . . 5,400 " . . . 2,240 "

S. W. " . . . 3,880 " . . . 605 "

N. C. " . . . 3,750 " . . . 2,022 "

S. C. " . . . 4,561 " . . . 2,181 "

E. " . . . 19,791 acres . . . 8,448 acres.

The total area under all crops is 2,210,942 acres.

The increase of area under wheat as compared with last year is 197,350 acres, while the total area under crop exceeds that of last year by 252,917 acres.

SEEDING, 1898.

Seeding commenced in most parts of the Province during the first week of April and was general by the 15th April. The majority of reports state that seeding was completed by the 24th May, a few only reported not finished until 31st May.

From the time that the first seed was sown, early in April, until the last week in May, seemed a long period to wait for rain, and many farmers were looking anxiously for it. The last week in May and the first four days in June gave local showers in many parts of the Province, and on June 5th there was a general rain throughout the Province lasting from 5 to 15 hours.

LIVE STOCK, 1898.

District.	Beef Cattle.	Milch Cows
North Western District	950	14,312
South Western District	1,726	13,879
North Central District	1,344	14,177
South Central District	2,406	13,340
Eastern District	1,475	19,065
Total	7,901	74,778

AREA UNDER CROP, 1897.

District.	Wheat. acres.	Oats. acres.	Barley. acres.
North Western	90,000	68,940	13,770
South Western	554,628	169,925	32,856
North Central	240,181	73,656	37,740
South Central	320,000	105,100	44,000
Eastern	86,075	50,520	24,900
Province	1,290,882	468,141	153,266

Total area under Flax . . . 20,653 acres.

" Rye . . . 2,975 "

" Peas . . . 1,669 "

" Corn . . . 713 "

Potatoes. . . 1,800 acres . . . 900 acres.

N. W. District . . . 3,600 " . . . 1,780 "

S. W. " . . . 2,446 " . . . 784 "

N. C. " . . . 2,400 " . . . 1,220 "

S. C. " . . . 3,330 " . . . 1,446 "

E. " . . . 13,576 acres . . . 6,130 acres.

The total area under all crops is 1,958,025 acres.

SEEDING, 1897.

Seeding commenced in many parts of the Province as early as the first of April, and was in progress everywhere by the 20th. The majority of reports state that seeding commenced April 15th, was general by the 20th, or 22nd, and completed by the 1st June.

LIVE STOCK, 1897.

District.	Beef Cattle.	Milch Cows
North Western District	1,425	11,440
South Western District	2,375	12,450
North Central District	1,449	13,480
South Central District	1,850	11,460
Eastern District	1,630	16,375
Total	8,729	65,205

The subjoined statement for convenience of reference gives a comparison with the acreage of 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

	1895. acres.	1896. acres.	1897. acres.	1898. acres.
Wheat	1,140,276	999,598	1,290,882	1,488,232
Oats	482,658	442,445	468,141	514,824
Barley	153,839	127,885	153,266	158,058
Flax	82,668	20,325	20,653	14,561
Potatoes	16,716	12,260	13,576	19,791
Roots	6,685	6,715	6,130	8,448
	1,887,796	1,614,221	1,958,025	2,210,942

Quack Grass.

If the land you propose to summer-fallow has patches of quack grass (also called couch grass) in it, try by all means to keep from treating it in the ordinary way. To plow and leave that grass alone at this season means to give it a great chance to spread itself, and if you harrow on the surface—the very best course for killing annual weeds, every round of the harrow will spread the roots till the whole field gets fairly inoculated with the grass. The safe plan is, if you have time, to manure such land with fairly rotted dung, right now, then give it a good furrow five inches deep, or thereabout, and sow directly after with six-rowed barley, taking care to harrow as little as possible. That will choke down the grass and rot it so as to make good food for next year's wheat crop out of its roots. If you have no manure, plow and seed without it, but a little more liberally. The great point is to smother the grass till the barley gets a good start. In the fall, if the barley gets a good start and ripens early, it may be possible to find time to plow that land again, the earlier in the season the better. One or two wet days in harvest may be taken to do a job of this sort and in this way a fair crop of good grain may be got, while the grass, instead of being a nuisance, will provide capital food for the crop of wheat to be sown there next spring. This warning every farmer that is troubled with couch grass should give heed to, for ample experience has shown that the ordinary way of fallowing is the surest way to spread spots of couch grass over a whole field.

Flourine.

Flourine is the name of a new food adulterant introduced by the Glucose Sugar Refining Co. at Chicago. It consists mainly of starch and is almost entirely destitute of the material out of which bone can be formed. It has besides a considerable sprinkling of the sulphuric acid and caustic soda by means of which the manufactures of this company are carried on. The amount of muscle forming material in this new variety of food is so small that a working man would have to use 150 lbs. of it to get muscle enough for one day's work. Professor Harry Snyder who has analyzed it, says: "Average flour contains about 12.6 per cent. of proteids, mainly in the form of gluten. It would take 70 lbs. of flourine to furnish the same amount of muscle present in 1 lb. of flour. If a person were fed on pure flourine he would soon die for the want of the proper vital nutrients, because starch alone cannot sustain life."

Close on the heels of flourine comes "mineraline," the most recent product of American genius in the way of food adulterants. Their circular is published by the North Western Miller, the great champion of pure flour products. It is really some sort of mineral ground to resemble flour, and its pushing investors say this:—"We invite your attention to our mineraline, which is without doubt the greatest existing discovery. There is no flour mill man who can afford not to use it, for several reasons. Your flour will be much whiter and nicer; it does not injure the flour in any way, is not at all injurious to the health, and by using mineraline you realize a margin of from \$400 to \$1,600 on each carload you use. To secure a low freight rate we mark it as 'ship-stuff.' We furnish all our customers with a mixer, free of charge; this machine will distribute completely any proportion desired, and costs nothing to attach. All you have to do is to bore a hole in your elevator pipe, clamp on the machine, attach a cord to run it, fill up the hopper, and set the feed to the proportion desired."

Notes from Carberry.

The Express says cut worms are reported to be doing considerable damage to the growing crops in the Carberry district.

One of our enterprising subscribers, G. B. Murphy, of Carberry, has recently sold in that district a car load of pure bred Polled Angus bulls and heifers, and to meet the demand they have excited he will take in another car forthwith.

Before Judge Ryan a case of horse warranty was tried the other day, which his honor has not yet settled. Would it not be very easy to write in plain black and white all such transactions and so save time and expense, to say nothing of bad blood.

The Carberry Summer Fair will go on after all, and there will be a lot of good money to win, besides a variety of attractions. The Council of the Municipality will give \$350 towards the fair, and the directors say that Carberry will not cave in to any other little burg west of Lake Superior. It is to be regretted that the date for holding the Portage la Prairie, Carberry and Brandon Fairs somewhat conflict, as it will no doubt be to the detriment of all three fairs, in so far as some exhibits are concerned.

SERVANT WANTED.

Country girl wishing a good home in the city, with light house work and good wages, will be advised of same by writing A. B. C., care of The Nor'-West Farmer, Box 1310, Winnipeg. Must be trustworthy.

Old and New Style Butter.

A recent writer in the Scottish Farmer thus discourses on the rivalry between good old style home dairy butter and the product of the modern separator:—"In examining the butter at the Glasgow Show last week we got the impression that what a facetious American calls 'The Tin Pan Brigade' of butter-makers are not going to be easily ousted from leading position in making full-flavored high-class butter. We fancied that two or three of the best samples there had been made on the old system, and we give expression to this opinion to encourage those who cannot afford to purchase the most modern appliances, or to attend the various excellent dairy schools now being carried on at the different institutions in the country, or even the classes conducted under the auspices of the different county councils. Undoubtedly these are doing much to spread exact knowledge of both the science and practice of butter-making, but it is a mistake to suppose that such institutions have the exclusive possession of the knowledge of the laws of good butter-making. We have yet to learn that the teachers at such institutions ever made such a claim. The fact is, that they and the old-fashioned makers of good butter are only approaching a delicate question on different systems, and there is good in both. We are inclined to the opinion that the general characteristic of separated-cream butter is that it is too creamy, sufficient care not being taken to bring out a full, rich flavor. One pleasing feature and fact about separated-cream butter is its absolute freedom from dirt. Unquestionably cream taken off or out by a separator is far more pure than much cream taken off in the ordinary way; but it also remains a fact that, in the hands of a few (only a few) really first-class old makers, cream from open pans is made into butter that casts into the shade, in some instances that made in the most modern style. We recently came across an amusing lament of an American butter-maker of the modern school, which we here reproduce for the instruction of our readers. This is what he says:—"We took one day's cream from the milk of the herd, cooled it to 45 deg., ripened it in the modern vat at 60 deg., churned at 56 deg., worked on a lever worker, salted it 1 oz. to the pound, and packed, and yet at the mid-winter fair, recently held in the city of Janesville, an old woman's butter made in the old way scored two or three points above us. It was turned hard on our nerves!" What we would like to see brought about would be the combining of the best of the two systems. Probably some of our modern teachers are too much inclined to

look down upon the old hands, and it would be well to remember a certificate does not cover everything, or carry the practical value of a lifelong experience. The old hands are, as a rule, too conservative to divulge their system of working. Now, then, who is going to assist in bringing together the best principles of both?"

This hits the nail pretty squarely on the head. It would be foolish to deny that even here in Manitoba home made butter sometimes reaches a high degree of merit. Only yesterday the present writer sent out to a worthy lady a certificate that the tub of butter she sold him in October had been opened every week or two from that date till now and was still sweet and wholesome. Another "old native" that has never set foot on a railroad train put up her butter last June and to us it tasted very good next January. She could not describe on paper just how that butter was made, but as a skilled reporter, we shall drop in one day when she is churning and endeavor to find out how that quality was reached by a woman who never perhaps heard of Hoard's Dairy-man.

The trouble is that the women who make butter the other way—trade quality—of a very wide range of quality—have not that facility which enables one or two of their sisters to pick out of their home experience, almost by intuition, the skill that produces No. 1, extra fine butter, worth keeping, and that will keep till January next. Our valued dairy commissioner might do worse than follow up this line of investigation with the best exhibits at the Industrial and try to find out for us how the wives who get the red tickets get to the top. By all means let us try to have here the choice blend of old and new ideas called for by our Glasgow butter critic.

Why Ensilage is Digestible.

Science is just beginning to throw light on the reasons why ensilage gives better results in feeding, than the same kind of fodder when dried. A German scientist has shown that the nutritive effect of fodder is modified by the "ease of digestion." If a large amount of dry, tough, woody material is present in the food, the labor of digestion is increased; the energy used in working over this ballast, while in the digestive tract, is just so much taken from the "productive" energies of the animal. The ensilage is easily reduced to a fine condition with little labor, while much hard work is needed to bring the same amount of dry food material into an available form.—Rural New-Yorker.

Desirable Changes.

There is a change gradually taking place in the character and customs of the people of Manitoba. Those who settled in this province brought with them many eastern ideas and some of these have become worn out. There is now a movement that has for an object utility rather than display. The new dwellings erected have not so many ornaments as were once fashionable, and there are fewer spires on modern houses than it was customary to place on expensive buildings that were erected some years ago. A change is also taking place in the character of the clothing worn by the people; heavy and more durable garments are now preferred by those who in former years sometimes indulged in light and showy apparel. In furniture the rule is to have articles heavy and well made and no great desire is shown for useless ornament. In the description of food used there is also a change taking place.—Western Prairie.

Thousands of chickens are ruined every summer by crowding them in close coops at night, without proper ventilation. When the chicks have become feathered they do not need very warm quarters at night, especially where twenty or more are housed in one coop. A large dry goods box makes a good coop. Put a slanting roof above it and slats. The air can enter but the projecting roof keeps out all rain. The large door in front permits the coop to be cleaned out readily. Keep the floor covered with dry loam. Chicks will thrive in this coop.



All kinds of REPAIRING done PROMPTLY.



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"Wilson's Common Sense Ear Drums" relieve all conditions of Deafness and Head Noises, where Medical skill fails. The only Scientific Aural Sound Conductor in the world. Safe to wear, comfortable, invisible, no dangerous wire or metal attachment. Recommended by physicians. Write for book free. Karl K. Albert.

See How You Can Make a Little Pile of Fuel Last a Long Time.



OLD STYLE STOVE.

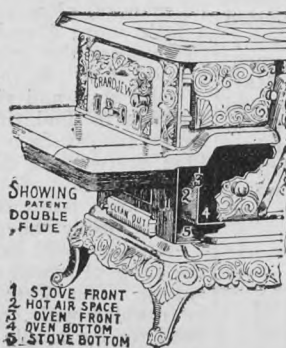
GRAND JEWEL STOVES SAVE A THIRD IN FUEL.

In the old-style stove the oven bottom extends to front of stove, so that heat cannot circulate around front of oven at all, so it takes a third more fuel to heat front of oven for baking.

In the New Grand Jewel the oven turns up to the fire box, 3 in. from front of stove (Milne's Pat. See Cut.), forming a perfect flue around the oven, heating it uniformly, making a perfect baker, and saving 33 1/3 per cent. in wood or coal.

The Grand Jewel is made in four sizes, fully guaranteed by the makers. If you don't like it, after a fair trial, you get your money back. The third size, 9-23, is best adapted for farm use. For full particulars, send for our illustrated, descriptive circular.

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NEW STYLE GRAND JEWEL.

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132 PRINCESS STREET,
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Farming Topics for June.

The object of all intelligent agriculture is to increase the fertility of the soil, and the consequent profit of the work done. It is of course possible to spend so much on labor and fertilizers that the increased yield will not cover the entire cost. But when the product is increased without unfair exhaustion of the soil and with the least possible outlay of labor, we are in the best track of farming and ought to prosper accordingly.

There is no stereotyped rule or method by which this desirable result can be reached, and sometimes we may think we are in the way of reaching it when we are in reality forestalling at a heavy discount the possible profits of future years. In advanced forms of agriculture, such as obtain in Britain, there is no such thing as *go-as-you-please* farming. The occupant of every farm is carefully bound down by conditions that will ensure the maintenance of crop producing power at a normal condition, under sharp penalties for non-fulfilment. In our own case there are no written conditions, but the unwritten laws of nature bear sure penalties for every transgression and equally sure rewards for every compliance with their requirements. We entered but yesterday into possession of a country which nature has liberally endowed with crop producing power, capable, with proper management, of profitable tillage for many years to come. But already we are becoming familiar with the penalties for bad farming. The constant calls made upon the resources of the soil by continuous grain cropping are already telling a tale to all observant eyes, and as has been repeatedly noticed in our columns "Among the Farmers," the level headed cultivators of the lands between Morden and Manitou have for years been making the feeding of stock a part of their scheme of farming, a good deal for the sake of the rich manure without which their land would before long become so run down that its cultivation would be unprofitable. There is no better subsoil in Manitoba than that underlying this section of the Pembina Mountain country. There are few or no noxious weeds to contend with, and the crops after summer-fallowing look to the superficial observer as good as any got in the same way a dozen years ago. But the separator tells a different tale. The stand of wheat that looked like 30 or 35 bushels, is when threshed, several bushels short. These men have found—what everybody else must some day find—that fallowing done in the very best way is only a means toward rendering available the dormant food supplies, mostly of a mineral nature, now stored up in the soil, and the more skillfully we fallow the faster will the grain producing power of the land get worked out.

Fallowing can be relied on if skillfully managed to kill out a large proportion of the weeds of all sorts that now compete with more desirable crops for a share of the plant food in our land. Weeds need food, water and air, and what they get is worse than wasted, while the crops we work to produce are impoverished to the same extent. The extra cultivation, implied in good fallowing, means a corresponding availability for all our crops of the gifts of nature in the shape of air, sun-

shine and moisture, as well as a desirable change in the mechanical and chemical condition of the soil, but it puts nothing in that was not there before. It makes more available, every time we try it, the mineral plant food stored in the land, but does not supply humus, the decaying vegetable matter, on the presence of which so much of the growth of all kinds of crop is dependent. That can only be got here as the result of stock rearing and feeding. Whether we produce beef or butter, every stage of the process will, if properly turned to account, add to the fertility of the soil. Without some such aid, farming here, as everywhere else, means the gradual exhaustion of the crop-bearing qualities of the soil and if our staple products are cereals raised for export, the down grade in the productive power of all our lands will be steeper than careless people can now see. Some proofs of the down grade the most careless cannot help seeing. Where very few of the weeds usually ranked as noxious are yet to be found, the crops of pigweed and similar annuals are in many cases simply appalling. There are good lands to be found, even now, in almost all parts of the country, that produce more seeds to the acre if counted than they produce grains of wheat. And the ratio of bad to good seeds is rapidly increasing. That they do not show equally bad in all years, is the result of varieties of season and treatment. There are enough bad seeds now embalmed and stored up in the average Western grain field to cause great anxiety to every thoughtful friend of the farming interest. Now that the stress of seeding is past and a little breathing time is available before the summer work comes on, The Farmer proposes to discuss point by point some of the most important points open for, and very much needing, careful study, as a guide to present and future operations in the field. Two of the most important in view of the con-

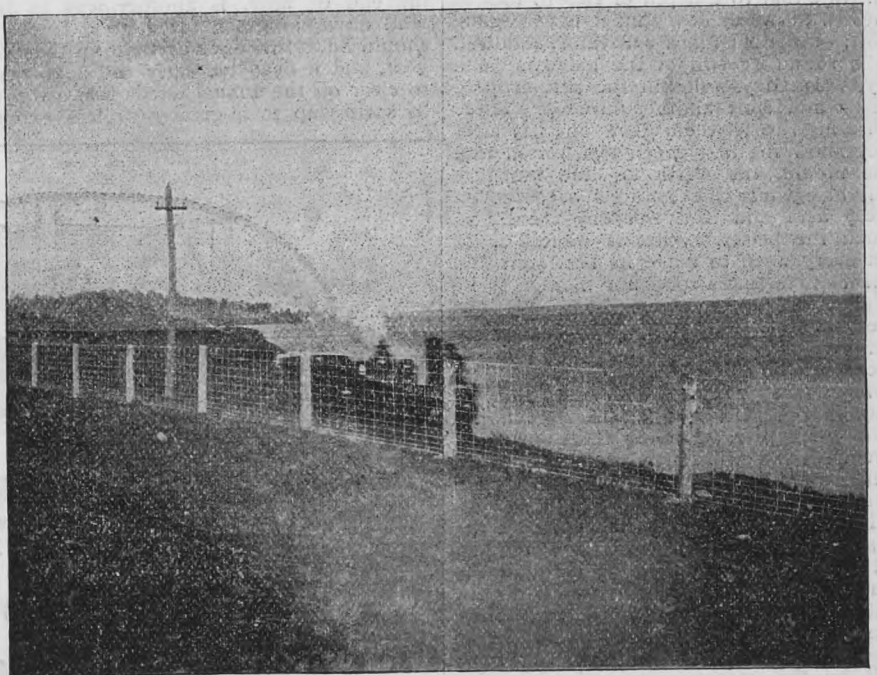
siderations already advanced, are weed killing and rotation. Summer fallowing, when its limitations are properly allowed for, is a good thing and before going on to the other two points, a little time may be devoted to its uses and the best way of doing it.

SUMMER FALLOWING.

There are more weeds on that field than anything else and every kind of grain tried on it is getting less satisfactory. It may be so destitute of humus or vegetable matter that even with a year's rest and fallowing, it may still fail to satisfy the cultivator. The only remedy for that state of things is farmyard manure, judiciously and freely used. That and wise rotation of crops is the remedy, especially if the land is light, for manure holds moisture in a way few people have any idea of, and with a climate like ours to have moisture present when the crop most needs it, is a most important consideration. By the way, one of the best things to be said for fallowing is that it puts the soil in the very best condition mechanically viewed, for holding the greatest possible amount of water in store for the use of the coming crop.

There are also present a lot of annual or other weeds and if we do not so work as to ensure their destruction, our work is to a great extent thrown away.

On the surface of the land we are to fallow there will be found a lot of foul seed shed last fall. The more of that seed we can get to germinate before we begin to plow the less of it will be embalmed to plague us in the near future. A round or two of the harrows in May will help this very much. It is doubtful if there is much profit in allowing a crop of such weeds to grow up for the sake of their manurial value. One plowing, and that a deep one, is desirable. If that is done, shallower work will be sufficient in the following years. If weeds



RAILROADS.

The following leading railroads of Canada are using **PAGE FENCING** in quantities of from one mile to three hundred:—Grand Trunk; Intercolonial; Canadian Pacific; Lake Erie and Detroit River; United Counties; Canada Atlantic; St. Lawrence and Adirondac; Michigan Central; Manitoba & Northwestern; East Richlieu Valley; Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo; Central Vermont; Thousand Islands; Crow's Nest Pass.

MORAL.—As the **PAGE** seems to be the thing for R. R. purposes, it certainly must be as good for farm use. And it is, too.

For further particulars send to the **PAGE WIRE FENCE CO., Walkerville, Ont.,** or their Northwest Agents, **THE RATHBUN CO., Winnipeg.**

have grown to any size before this is done the land will be very much drier and harder to plow. If we harrow close behind the plow it will save all the sap in the soil and that helps to germinate the foul seeds. If we harrow as often as we see a fresh crop of weeds pointing through and, as soon as it can be done without clogging the harrows, after every summer shower, no end of foul seeds will be cleared out in that one summer, and the part of our plowing below the reach of our harrow will get more compact, the very condition wanted for the following crop of wheat that is to pay for this extra labor.

If perennial roots are to be dealt with, some form of cultivator that will keep cutting the shoots as they come above the ground will ensure their exhaustion, for no plant can live through a whole summer if it is kept from forming green leaves. That in a word is the philosophy of the destruction of perennial weeds. No matter how deeply the main roots go, keep cutting off the tops and they must die from exhaustion. More on the subject of fallowing it is not necessary to say in this connection.

WEED KILLING

Has already been discussed perhaps far enough for the majority of cases. But when we come to examples of French weed in the middle of May that average ten plants to the square inch, followed by the rich blossoms of yellow mustard six weeks later, and a thick growth of thistles and other miscellaneous roots close at their heels, that is a state of matters for which no ordinary treatment will avail much. Yet even that can be mastered if not quite cured by one or two years' careful treatment. Suppose we are to start on such a field on the first of June, any place along the Red river. The land is not so rich as it looks and often the very weeds are poor. The French weed is in bloom, perhaps partly in pod, and a start should have been made on it ten days ago. To cultivate that to a depth of two to four inches with a shallow old Ontario gang plow, or better still, a cultivator, followed by a round or two of the harrows on a dry, warm day, will kill the first crop of weeds and start another directly. There is no need to let them grow one day after they show the first green leaf, for in that fine mould, the warm air and moisture will bring into life millions of seeds on every acre and if a wet day comes, so much the better. What is wanted is to get every weed to make its best start and kill it off to make room for more. There is room enough and time enough between the middle of May and the end of October to start and kill off twenty crops in succession of French weed, with the certainty that somehow there will be enough old seed still left to start a fair crop next year. Two or three crops of French weed will have started and got killed before the mustard shows much, but the same treatment suits both.

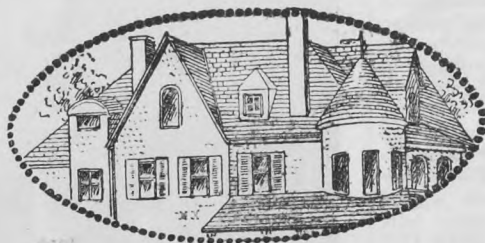
If the cultivation was right done for the first crop of French weed it would cut off the thistles just showing through the surface, and as often as they do show the cultivator must be used to keep them from forming green leaves. A lot of food was stored up deep in the ground last fall by the parent roots and while that lasts the shoots will keep coming to the surface, but if they are kept down the food supply below will get used up and the want of leaves will hinder the plant from making more. Without thistles, three or more successive harrowings and then a round of the cultivator will be the proper course for annual weeds, following the same course all through the season. Where there are thistles the only rule is to cut from three to four inches

below the surface with the cultivator and harrow in the sunshine the next day. If there be a wet spell, nothing can be done till the land is dry enough to start the cultivator, either with annuals or perennials. Harrowing kills annual weeds in their first stages, but once they get roots formed the only treatment is the cultivator, to be applied as soon after the rain as the land can be worked easily without clogging. One year of this treatment will work wonders on the most aggravated examples, but a green crop, say potatoes, the second year, kept well hoed, will make a surer job. It may be set down as a sure thing that without a year's summer fallowing done with care and skill on these lines no man will ever make much impression on the mixed weed crop of the older settlements. And it is equally sure that till some government sets the example, no such effectual remedy will get a fair trial. Such gardens as can be seen near Winnipeg, in the very heart of the weedy districts, are well fitted to prove that even with foul seeds coming in on every footprint of man or beast, weeds can be kept down and good crops got in their stead any place in the old districts of Manitoba. Talking is of little avail, but well directed work persisted in for a year or two would work wonders on the worst cases of old weed growth. All that is needed is one pregnant example. Sheep would work miracles on all kinds of weeds, but sheep won't stand idle dogs and need fencing of an expensive kind.

CROP ROTATIONS.

Let us assume that by well done fallowing the land has been made pretty clean and otherwise in good trim. Next year's crop would of course be wheat. If that is fairly clean (a little hand weeding would help it much) the next crop would be wheat or oats, after that barley, into which five pounds of timothy can be sown along with the grain or preferably by a grass-seed attachment. To cultivate after the barley and sow brome grass alone—about the end of May, is another way to lay land down in grass. If a good catch, it should be mown once or twice in the first year, and if need be, early the next year, to clear off the annual weeds that are sure to spring up to a greater or less extent.

Only a very limited amount of pasturing these grasses should be allowed the first fall, and a scattering of manure over them before winter will be a great help. Too much pasturing will weaken the plant and be a drawback to the profit of next year's hay crop. Brome grass is preferable to timothy, for after the valuable seed has ripened and been threshed off, the straw is much better liked by all stock than the straw of ripe timothy. After the first hay crop has been taken off and a little pasturing allowed later in the season, a good second crop of hay may be got on most lands by manuring heavily. Even if the manure is a little rough the straw will be well broken by the cattle ranging over it in search of sweet bites. Even if the second crop of hay cannot be got the manuring should be done all the same, for nothing has been more clearly taught by experience than the wisdom of doing all the manuring if possible on grass that shall be afterwards pastured by cattle. The foul seeds in the manure are freely germinated and most if not all of the weeds themselves are eaten up by the cattle as they come up. After a season or two's pasturing, the sod should be broken up and backset at the same season and in much the same way as at first breaking up the land. In Britain such land, there called "lea," is not broken up till fall and winter, and only on such land are plowing matches ever held, as it shows the skill of the workman more than any other sort of land. But here it is doubtful if the sod could be rotted in any other way than by the old plan of breaking and backsetting. Of course the crop following this would again be wheat, and the rotation repeated as often and in such ways as the character of the land and the judgment of the owner would dictate. There would in such rotation be no time for summerfallow to come in and the land once started in that way would most likely get better on without it. For the most careful scientific investigations, as well as actual tests, go to show that land lying black all summer is not as well as if it bore some green crop, to hold the nitrogen which is lost in the air during the idle year. Be that as it may, such crop rotation as here outlined, or some similar course, along with the partial introduc-



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tion of green crops, would both keep the land clean and in good heart, two things which we saw at the outset were of first importance in any scheme of practical farming.

Special Stock Food.

The last winter has been a very hard one on stock. With the exception of cows kept in towns by some dairymen who have found out that a cow poor in condition is a losing investment, the common stock of this country has come out very poor, and but for the numbers withdrawn by the very special demand from the States, many of them would have been practically starved to death. But for the wonderfully fine winter and thinning out for sale, our stock, instead of enriching us, would have helped to make us a good deal poorer. In the Territories a late snow storm made sad havoc with stock that up till that time was doing fairly well. In the ranching districts it will take a good many favoring conditions to bring all the lean stock already on the ground and being daily sent in, up to a condition of profit. In Manitoba we must depend on special feeding for the wintering of our stock and the prospects for doing that at a cheap rate next winter are just now very small. The dryness of the spring has told on the low lands which we depend on for our natural hay, and even with rain in June the hay crop, both cultivated and uncultivated, must be very light. Wheat straw, cut on the green side, and especially the chaff from such straw, will go a good way to help out the wintering of all stockers above a year old. But for cows, calves and all stock that need special wintering, the outlook is very blue unless something extra can be done to provide winter keep.

Within the next few weeks, or even along to the first week of July, a good deal of special feed can be provided if we set actively about it. Oats are now up to

famine prices, and the latest wrinkle is to buy a few cars all the way from Edmonton to supply the Winnipeg market. But even with feed at 50 cents, ten acres of oats sown on the best bit of ground available, and cut in or after the milk stage, with the binder, will work wonders on the stock of any farm, when fed with judgment. Every day experience with all who have cared to try has shown that oats so cut and used make the finest milk food as well as the easiest grown here that any man can try. Some years back David Munroe, at Neepawa, sowed barley in the middle of July, on land manured for summer fallow and found that if cut in the milk late in the year, they made a food that every beast in his farm was crazy to get at. This is a pointer that every farmer with stock to winter and any bit of spare land to sow should make special note of. It is the common rule that if a crop gets past the first frosty night of August in safety, a spell of milder weather after that may be counted on and while grain nearly ripe got frosted in such a night greener stuff got safe over that first frost and ripened in the fine weather that followed. Such has been a frequent experience in the past, and if so, then we may sow barley on till the end of June with almost a certainty that whether we have August frosts or not, the barley we sow so late may ripen into mature grain, or if not can be cut say two days later, making the best of hay. But the chances are that there will be no necessity to cut till the grain is either fully ripe or so far advanced as to make it a valuable feed for the best stock we own.

Then there is Indian corn, which as the continuous experience of our western experiment stations proves, can be grown ripe enough for feed, if not for seed, and in heavy crops. If planted in the end of May a fairly ripe crop of early corn can be counted on in any year, but even when sown in the first week in June corn will on good ground, rush on at great speed and make a crop, not so heavy or valuable as if put in a fortnight earlier, but

certainly rich in succulent feed that in spite of a chance night's frost, will still cut a few tons to the acre, and if cured in the sheaf and then spread out in layers among recently threshed straw, becomes very palatable to all stock and well worth all the money it costs to handle it. That much the best value can be taken out of Indian corn by storing it in a silo has been abundantly proved at Brandon in this province and in countless instances elsewhere, but even when we have not got and do not see our way to get to the siloing stage, there can still be a great deal done to make corn growing very profitable for the use of stock on ordinary farms.

INDIAN CORN.

As stock feed generally does best when sown about Queen's birthday, May 20th to 25. To sow before there is considerable warmth in the ground is no advantage, and if the land is naturally cold and damp it is hardly desirable in even good seasons. Good rich sandy loam is the ideal soil for corn, and the season can hardly be too warm to suit it. Sunshine is in fact more than half the food of corn. The matured plant has in it more than 60 per cent. of starch and sugar, all of it fed by the sun, and that is one reason why corn should not be planted so thick in the ground as is generally done. It is worthless if grown in the shade and when thick on the ground many parts are shaded by the overcrowding of the leaves. Our black soils are capital absorbents of heat and that is one reason why we can grow corn here to such advantage. The land should be fairly well manured and not liable to hold water after a heavy rain. But corn needs much moisture and its manner of feeding should be understood if we want to make a success of it. The plant throws out one set of roots which bore down in search of moisture, but perhaps draw very little food from that depth. It next begins to spread out another set of roots near the surface, which act mainly as feeders. Unskilled cultivation kills a

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great many of these surface roots and lessens their feeding power to the same extent. Deep stirring of the soil between the rows after planting is highly detrimental.

The mode of cultivation should be something as follows: The soil should be fairly deep and well manured. It should be plowed a fortnight before seeding so as to get the chance to kill out as many foul seeds as possible. Two rounds of the harrow between plowing and seeding will do much in that way. Using a seed drill with all the holes stuffed except enough to sow 40 inches apart is the easiest way to plant here. If the holes can be set to drop one seed to every eight inches and an inch and a half or two inches deep, is the ideal planting. Try the machine on bare ground as to the amount of seed it will drop and then go on. In a week after sowing, a fresh crop of weeds will point through the ground and the harrow on a fine, warm day will kill them sure. This narrowing may with profit be repeated even if the leaves of the corn are a few inches long, and with very little injury to the plant. If cultivated between the rows the cultivation should be as shallow as possible for fear of injuring the feeding roots already referred to. If everything is right the corn will grow so rapidly as to overshadow and choke out the later growth of weeds. Just how much this mode of treatment would avail against thistles and similar perennial weeds is doubtful, but it is well worth a trial. The corn should be allowed to grow as long as it appears to make any profit, even though the tips of the leaves have been touched by frost. An old binder is generally used here to cut, and as the stalks are very hard near the ground, the higher the cutting can be done the safer and easier will the job prove. The stooks may stand out much longer than grain, and there is risk of the corn heating if stacked early. In the States it is often allowed to stand out in the sheaf all winter, taking its chance of the larger quantity of rainfall and intervening frosts, but this always takes place at the cost of reduced feeding value. Here there are almost no rains or thaws and perhaps corn could be left out until wanted with less waste than is the case down in Illinois. For dairying the corn plant produces choice food in the middle Western States at a remarkably low cost, and the manure produced by stock, a great proportion of it being kept for dairy purposes, has done very much to restore the fertility lost by growing grains for export only. Illinois being earlier settled, its lands got first worn out and the attention there paid to improved dairying and the profits resulting, are well known to all who have paid any attention to the question. It is only a few years since Iowa fell into line. The increase since, and the enormous amount of her butter production are among the most interesting facts in the history of modern dairying. These facts are mentioned here to show how much may reasonably be expected here if we give proper attention to the possibilities open to those who will combine some amount of corn growing with their dairy practice. Mr. Munroe, on his farm west of Winnipeg, has this year put in a very large breadth of corn on land well manured from his dairy stables and we may expect from his experience a revelation that thousands of other farmers may well lay to heart.

It may be pointed out before closing that for those who try only an acre or two of corn this year, it may be greatly benefited and weeds very much kept down by spreading manure, rough or fine, from a wagon between the rows to act as a mulch. To sow an acre, as pointed out, will take about 20 pounds of seed,

and Squaw corn or Dakota Flint will be earlier than the ranker growing sorts.

Oats and barley and Indian corn do not by any means exhaust the possibilities for special food raising in the present season. On any bit of fairly clean and moderately rich land a capital crop of turnips may yet be grown with great likelihood of getting a good crop. To sow in drills and thin, old country fashion, would of course make a much better crop, but we want to get much faster over the ground here than in the old country, and by broadcasting very thin we may get a lot of capital roots from a sowing of not more than two pounds an acre. Swedes are the longest keepers, but for this purpose it may be well to sow half a pound of white Globe, as much of Aberdeen yellow and a pound of purple top Swede. The land should be well narrowed down before sowing and the seed carefully handied to avoid bunching and bare spots. But as the land costs next to nothing it is better to have the crop too thin than too thick if we are willing to destroy by hoeing or pulling the bulk of the weeds. To thin out the biggest bunches in fall when the cattle come in from the dry prairie grass at night and throw them a few each night over the fence, will make a better attraction to home coming, than a round of the dogs, and after all the best roots have been pulled and stored for winter use, there will be lots of smaller ones to be eaten where they stand. Even on new breaking roots can be grown to good purpose in this same way, the great point always being to handle the land so quickly that it does not dry out in the working. Mangels to a limited extent can also be grown and stored and flax on new land may also be made available. Only last year Jas. Riddell, M.P.P., grew on what would have been fallow land a great breadth of rape, some of which he sold to advantage after filling the whole of his own requirements.

It is manifest that in one way or another ample feed of the best quality can be sown and grown this very season by all who are willing to take reasonable pains. Even a squaw can by her methods raise a good deal of crops such as we have described. But we are or ought to be a long way in advance of squaw farming. If we are not it is quite proper that our indifference should be rewarded as it deserves.

Killarney Agricultural Society will hold a summer show on June 27 and 28.

The eleventh annual exhibition of the Manitou Agricultural Society will be held on July 21 and 22.

Blyth Farmers' Institute will hold its annual plowing match on the farm of C. S. Charleson, 21,9,17, near the Assiniboine. Three years ago its prize list was ludicrously humble, now it is worth \$500. There will be seven classes, each having either a gold or silver medal or cup, with a grand silver cup presented for championship by F. O. Fowler, M.P.P., for sweepstake competition. Great as was the success of last year's match, there is every prospect that the coming contest will eclipse anything of the kind in the province. The following plows will take part in the competition:—Men's 14 and 16 in. W. plows; gangs for three and four horses respectively; sulkies for three horses. The gang for three horses is a 12 in. and is a new class added to the contest. Under noted are the various classes, who will compete: Men's 14 and 16 in.; young men under 21, 14 in.; boys under 16, 14 in.; gangs for three and gangs for four horses; sulkies for three horses.

That at Wawanesa will be held on 34, 7, 17, with prizes worth \$300, and will take place on June 24.

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The managers of these institutions invite applications from farmers and others for boys and youths who are being sent out periodically, after careful training in English homes. The older boys remain for a period of one year at the Farm Home at Russell, during which time they receive practical instruction in general farm work before being placed in situations. Boys from eleven to thirteen are placed from the distributing home in Winnipeg. Applications for younger boys should be addressed to the Resident Superintendent—115 Pacific Avenue, Winnipeg, or P. O. Box, 970—and for older boys, possessing experience in farm work, to Manager, Dr. Barnardo's Farm Home, Barnardo, Man. [1897]

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Sugar Beets.

On page 171 of the March issue of The Farmer some of the light of outside experience was thrown on the subject of producing beets for the manufacture of sugar. A good deal of superficial talk has been recently indulged in on this matter and The Farmer has from the first contended that the idea of going into the production of sugar in this country is out of the range of practical farming. Our next neighbor, the State of Minnesota, has for 10 years been raising beets in a tentative way and has issued a bulletin summarizing the case as it now presents itself. Southern Minnesota is fairly well adapted to the production of good saccharine quality, and what they have to tell may be held a pretty safe guide to the practical side of the question. The land must be sandy loam, deeply plowed. In that State a fairly moist summer and dry fall are necessary conditions to a high grade beet that will yield about 15 per cent. of sugar. Good sandy loam on a clay subsoil suits the plant and rows 18 inches apart in the rows are best. The thinning is done by showing out say three inch gaps with a hoe, leaving a little bunch of beets to be thinned out by hand. The seed is put in from the middle of May to the first few days in June and it takes 18 to 20 lbs. seed per acre. The last ten days of September are the harvest season and bulbs 2 to 3 lbs. weight are better than larger and coarser specimens. Rank manure of any kind does harm. There is a deal of hand hoeing in raising beets, and frequent hoeings are needed. It is reckoned that 12 to 15 days' labor are needed to produce an acre of beets, and this, with the seed, is put at \$30 to \$35. The yield of good beets is put at 10 to 16 tons, worth at the factory \$4 per ton. An acre the first year is enough and to grow two acres in every year requires a lot of labor. A factory will need 25,000 to 30,000 tons of beets to keep it running 75 days. It is evident that where the conditions are most favorable there must be a lot of poorly paid labor done by somebody and the experience of Minnesota makes more emphatic the proof that there is a lot of hard and skilful work to be done and very poor pay to be got. For the present year experimental plots will be sown and grown by a great many farmers, to whom the best seed will be given free. There is a beet sugar factory started near Minneapolis, at which all the roots of any value will be pulped and the juice converted into sugar, but it may be safely predicted that foreign sugar will be dearer than now if any amount of business is to be done.

W. J. Kennedy brought in two machines from the United States for cultivating grain after it is up. He is using one on his own farm and the work done is excellent; it destroys the weeds, stirs the ground, but does not pull up the grain. C. E. Ivens, a very successful farmer of 10-27, is using the other with equally good results. Farmers should look at the work of these machines; they will find it to their advantage.—Virden Advance.

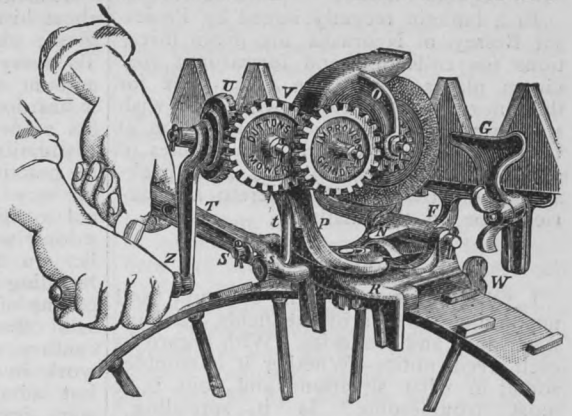
The File Hill Indians north of Qu'Appelle have this spring been able to make a good deal of money by selling hay to their less provident white brethren. Nothing like dollars for waking up even a people that are born tired. If their farming instructor, in addition to his useful supervision of their industrial development, could induce them to spend their money in less childish ways after they have earned it, the civilization of the red man will not be so very remote a possibility as it now sometimes looks.

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Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College.

How to Handle Specimen Plants.

In a bulletin recently issued by Professor Bessey, of Nebraska, are given directions for collecting and forwarding specimen plants, which are given here for the information of those who may wish to forward to the Experiment Station at Ottawa, Botanical department, samples of plants for identification. All such packages and letters relative thereto are carried free on the mails.

WEEDS.

1. Observations upon the common (and uncommon) weeds of the fields, gardens, wastelands and roadsides. With regard to each weed, notice—Whether it is troublesome; in what situations and soils is it most troublesome? Is it spreading? When did it first appear? This year, last year, or when? Look for it on the adjoining prairies; is it there? Look for it along streams, or in woodlands. When does it bloom? Give color and size of blossoms. When does it produce seed? Save a few seeds. When the weed is in blossoms, send me a sample of it.

WILD GRASSES AND FORAGE PLANTS

2. Observations on the wild grasses, and forage plants. The purpose of these observations is to discover whether any of the wild plants now growing in any place in Nebraska might profitably be cultivated for pasturage, hay or fodder. It is quite likely that if we knew all about the wild plants around us we should find that some of them are very useful food plants for our domestic animals. Among these some should be worthy of cultivation. Look for these promising grasses or forage plants. When you find one which you think may be useful—Notice whether it is annual or perennial. If annual you may as well drop it, since we already have enough annual forage plants.

If, however, it is perennial,—Look at its roots: are they abundant, and does it spread under the ground by them. Do the stems become woody? Do you think it may be made to grow quite thickly upon the ground? Do the leaves supply the food or the stems? For what use would it be best—pasturage or hay? Do you think it would stand pretty close pasturing? When does it blossom or head out? What color are its blossoms? Does it form an abundance of seeds? Can they be gathered easily? When it is in bloom (or head) send a few samples of it.

DIRECTIONS FOR SENDING SAMPLES OF PLANTS.

Unless the plant is very large, the whole plant should be sent. It must be in blossom or in fruit, (seed), preferably the former. Attach a little tag to the sample, on which write your name, and a number. Keep a record of all the numbers you send, or still better, keep a sample plant yourself, similarly numbered. Now lay your plant on a newspaper, bend it in one or two places so as to make it shorter; spread out its leaves and flowers, and then begin to roll it in the paper. Do not simply roll the paper around the plant so that the plant occupies the central round cavity formed by the rolled paper, but so roll the plant and paper that the plant is rolled tightly in between the layers of paper. You can now roll another kind of plant in the same package if you wish to do so, and so on until you have ten or a dozen, always numbering them and keeping a record. When all are rolled in, bend the end of the roll in at both ends, and tie tightly.

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

This department has recently issued a short historical sketch of its origin, progress, objects and present organization. To every one at all conversant with the amount and practical value of the work it has done at home, as well as the benefits reaped by Canada itself from its investigations and experiments in the field of practical agriculture this report must be very interesting reading. Government aid to agriculture on this continent dates a long way further back than the republic. In 1622 a grant to encourage the breeding of silk worms was made to the colony of Virginia, and in 1642 Massachusetts offered prizes for sheep raising. A century ago Washington wanted to do work in the same field and during his last administration sheep from Barbary were imported in a government vessel. Owing to Napoleon's invasion of Spain merino sheep could for the first time be bought by outsiders and about the same time pigs were imported from China and France. In 1839 \$1000 was provided to import foreign seeds and in 1842 statistics were collected and published. In 1862 a special department was organized and a commissioner appointed to take charge of it. The same year Wm. Saunders, a Scotchman of great ability, was employed to manage a propagating garden in the City of Washington, where imported new varieties could be grown and tried.

In 1889 Commissioner Colman was advanced to the rank of Minister of Agriculture, which then became one of the administrative departments of the government. The present secretary, Hon. Jas. Wilson, took office in 1897. Of the Department of Agriculture, it may be said without flattery, that it has done an amount of good to the country far beyond its cost. In the one year, 1894, by means of its storm warnings, more ships were prevented from going to sea in heavy storms than would cover the whole cost of the department since it came into existence. Yet this is a mere subordinate detail, so to speak, in the wide field covered by the operations of this department. Take one item in its publication department. It has within the last few years issued over 70 farmers' bulletins in which the fruits of the research and observation of many long years by men of special fitness for the work are circulated free for the asking, not only at home, but by way of exchange with every farming paper in Canada. We cannot here specify a tithe of the good work done by this great department, but are glad of the opportunity to acknowledge our own obligations to it.

It does not in any degree lessen our appreciation of the good work done by the agricultural department of the U.S. that we can here in Canada boast of departments, both federal and local, whose work is fit to take a place alongside of the very best done by and for the neighboring nation. Canada has good reason to be proud of her own agricultural department and the men who do its work. From the bottom to the top they "fill the bill" and do an amount of work for progressive agriculture that it could very ill spare.

The latest attraction at Rosser is Mr. Mollard with his powerful traction engine, which can be seen teaming up and down a field of breaking with six plows in tow, each doing admirable work. As each man arrives at the end of his furrow he tilts the plow and so on until the last man has arrived at the headland, then the engine is wheeled about and starts on the return trip down the land, each party entering the plow when his turn comes.

The Harvest Season.

Harvest is going on all the year round at some part of the surface of our globe. Beginning with the new year, we find harvesting at our Antipodes. It is harvest season as follows:—

January—Australia, New Zealand, Chili and Argentine.

February and March—East India and Upper Egypt.

April—Lower Egypt, Syria, Cyprus, Persia, Asia Minor, India, Mexico and Cuba.

May—Algeria, Central Asia, China, Japan, Morocco, Texas and Florida.

June—Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, South of France, California, Oregon, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, Kansas, Arkansas, Utah, Colorado, and Missouri.

July—Roumania, Bulgaria, Austro-Hungary, South of Russia, Germany, Switzerland, France, South of England, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New York, New England, and the province of Ontario.

August—Belgium, Holland, Great Britain, Denmark, Poland, Province of Quebec, Manitoba, North and South Dakota.

September and October—Scotland, Sweden, Norway and North of Russia.

November—Peru and South Africa.

December—Burmah.

Mr. Ede, of Pipestone district, has invented and manufactured a fanning mill which those who have seen it pronounce by far the best of anything of its kind in the market. Unlike other mills, it has a revolving sieve at the bottom which absolutely takes all dirt out of the grain. Rev. Mr. Bridgman has kindly offered to donate a special prize to have it exhibited at Virden Fair this year. Mr. Ede is somewhat of a genius, having a sewing machine of his own manufacture in his home.—Advance.

A neat piece of wheat stealing has been unearthed at Neepawa, and the culprits are now in gaol awaiting an examination before a magistrate. It seems they have been in the habit of visiting R. C. Ennis' elevator during the day and allowing the wheat to run into the boot, then bringing bags at night they filled them with wheat and drew it away, in all probability marketing it the next day at Ennis' elevator. One of Ennis' men had occasion to go down into the boot on Monday and was surprised to see about thirty bags of wheat tied up. He opened some of them and put in pieces of marked cardboard besides marking the bags. Sure enough next day two men drove in with the wheat and sold it to Ennis and were promptly arrested. It is believed that this clever trick has been worked for a considerable time without detection, but like other and better men these plunderers have found that it is a long lane that has no turning.

HONEST HELP FREE!

AN OLD CLERGYMAN, deploring the fact that so many men are being imposed upon by unscrupulous quacks, is willing to inform any man who is weak and nervous or suffering from various effects of errors or excesses, how to obtain a perfect cure. Having nothing to sell, he asks for no money, but is desirous for humanity's sake to help the unfortunate to regain their health and happiness. Perfect secrecy assured. Address, with stamp, REV. A. H. MACFARLANE, FRANKTOWN, ONTARIO. 2402



Growing Fruit in Manitoba.

In a communication to an exchange, J. Parkinson, who has a fine fruit garden on his farm, a couple of miles northeast of Portage la Prairie, and whose place was illustrated in the April number of *The Farmer*, thus relates the success he has met with in the cultivation of small fruits:—"My experience with fruit growing in Manitoba has been mostly in small fruits. Black, white and red currants all do well, so do raspberries and gooseberries. Strawberries have not done so well with me. Cultivated plums have not done well with me. I have been trying to grow apples from seeds, and if I had known so well from the outset where to plant as I do now, I have not the least doubt but what I should have had about 20 apple trees with fruit on this summer. But the deep snow a year ago took the tops clean off all the apples and about 20 wild or native plums. The plums I am digging out, but the apple trees I shall let stand. They grew wonderfully last summer, I am so satisfied that apples will grow here that we are preparing to plant about three acres next spring. I shall plant half the land to Duchess of Oldenburg, and the rest to be selected. I shall plant currants in rows four feet apart each way until apples grow on the apple trees. We are picking fruit from about 3,000 currant, gooseberry and raspberry bushes, and intend to plant about 2,000 more this year and about 12,000 cuttings.

Wild Blossoms on the Prairie.

Manitoba is distinguished for the immense variety of wild flowers and flowering shrubs, which appear in the woods and on the prairie in their proper seasons. The first to show bloom are the anemones, which, almost as soon as the snow goes off, cover the prairie with a carpet of flowers: coming early, when the nights are still cold, each hardy flower is provided with a little cloak, which the blossom draws around it for protection. The red cherry and the June berry are the first bushes to put on garlands of flowers, and this done with such profusion that the woods become white, for the blossoms exist in great numbers. The hawthorn blooms early in Manitoba, but does not grow to as great a height as in the east, but carries bunches of flowers in such profusion that each cluster touches another, causing the bush to look as if it was one great blossom. The nanny berry is found chiefly in Southern Manitoba, says the Western Prairie, and is a very interesting little tree, that puts forth large bunches of blossoms that produce great clusters of purple berries, of which the bush partidges are very fond. In fall, when frost touches the leaves, the bush becomes a blood red, and as neither the leaves nor the berries fall off readily, the bush remains long an object of beauty. The silver-leaved willow, like the buffalo berry, which belongs to the same family, has yellow blossoms in great abundance, and are so fragrant that the wind carries the perfume far over the prairie. The winter berry grows equally well in the woods or on the prairie, and has abundance of pink and white blossoms. The berries are white, and in autumn almost completely cover the bushes, and form a considerable part of the food of the prairie grouse

during the winter. The spirea is the most beautiful flowering shrub in Manitoba; the blossoms are pink and white, and form on every branch in cone shaped clusters. The little bush grows chiefly in river valleys and partly wooded districts. There are three kinds of honeysuckle, and like the morning glory and hops that grow wild, are found in the woods and near creeks. About the beginning of June the first roses appear, and then the woods and afterwards the prairie becomes highly adorned. The lilies are in bloom a little later, and although abundant, still these beautiful flowers are not so numerous as formerly. Eighteen or twenty years ago a traveller might drive all day through fields of magnificent lilies. The range of hills south of Cypress River was named the Tiger Hills on account of the immense numbers of lilies that bloomed on the slopes and in the valleys. The blue gentian is a very beautiful flower found in shady places. The vetch and wild pea show very beautiful purple blossoms. There are multitudes of attractive flowers on the prairie that we cannot name, and some new blossoms have been introduced since settlement took place. White clover and dandelions are now common, and it is quite likely when garden roses are more cultivated that double flowers will be found with the wild roses on the prairies.

One of the most interesting curiosities in Germany is the rose tree at Hildesheim which is more than a thousand years old. Its existence can be traced back to the time of Charlemagne. It was mentioned as a curiosity in old chronicles of the ninth century. It twines around a large part of the ancient cathedral of Hildesheim, near Brunswick, and with its countless blossoms presents in the season an entrancing spectacle. This venerable witness from bygone ages has been attacked by some insidious insect that threatens it with destruction. The Hildesheimers, to whom the roses are a sacred heirloom, have summoned the best authorities in arboriculture to their aid, but the fate of their tree fills them with anxiety.

The only tea plantation in the United States is located near Summerville, S.C. It is the property of Dr. Charles U. Shepard who has undertaken to prove that tea, one of the greatest staple articles used by Americans to-day, can be raised by our farmers profitably, says a writer in the "Cosmopolitan." This attempt to add to our now widely diversified list of industries a new one, Dr. Shepard made partly as an experiment and partly as a business enterprise. And it is very interesting to note that in a business way it has been quite successful. Last season Dr. Shepard sent to market upwards of 1,100 pounds of the finest tea obtainable, and this year's crop, he states, will amount to more than 2,000 pounds.

An American writer eloquently says:—When a man plants a tree, paying a few cents for it, all nature goes into partnership with him. The sun, the air, the rain, the earth, the unseen forces that work wonders by day and by night join in making his investment pay a hundred, even a thousand per cent. in profits. The tree in blossom, the ripening and ripened fruit! What greater boon does Nature yield to man? He who plants a tree builds a monument that will bless him and others. It is better than stone. The one is vanity; the other is love, generosity, patriotism. Whoever helps beautify the earth has not lived in vain. Whoever does one good deed may not be wholly condemned—never, nowhere. It is a blessed privilege to grow old under one's own trees; to see children there at play, your own children and, later, their chil-

dren. The shade is so kindly, the air so balmy and the birds sing in these green depths as they do nowhere else.

The Brandon Horticultural Society has just issued the prize list for its first exhibition, to be held in the City Hall, Aug. 26, 1898, under the distinguished patronage of the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen. The list comprises 30 awards offered for flowers, fruits, vegetables, etc. The following section is noteworthy and should be imitated elsewhere:—For the best laid out, kept and cultivated grounds, to include trees, shrubs, flower beds, borders and lawns, \$2, \$1. For the best cultivated lawn, \$1, 75c. For the best cultivated vegetable garden, \$2, \$1. For the best cultivated composite garden, not to exceed five lots, \$3, \$1. For the best cultivated composite garden, not to exceed two lots, \$3, \$1. For the best window of plants, \$1, 75c. For the best bay window of plants, \$1, 75c. For the best group of plants, cultivated in any office, \$1, 75c. For best balcony boxes of flowers, \$1, 75c. For best collection of native plants, cultivated in the garden. This section will be judged "in situ" two weeks previous to the exhibition.

PUREST AND BEST

Windsor Salt

Is used by the leading Creameries and Cheese Factories, and is also used in the GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS in preference to any other brand.

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We ship direct to the people at wholesale prices. If not as represented we buy them back. They are guaranteed. It will pay you to send at once for our catalogue and price list. Crated with care.

H. R. KEYES,
Reliable Farm Supplies,
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What the Baby Said.

You's the bestest mamma
Ever in the world.
But when I'ze your mamma
I won't make you curled.
I won't wash your hanny pans,
Dirty as a pig,
When you grow down little
And I grow up big.

That's the way with mammas—
Turn about—for when
Their young folks grow up to folks
They grow down again.
Then they are their baby's child.
Then I dance a jig.
You will grow down a little
While I grow up big.

Then I'll give you candy,
Take you to the show,
And I'll 'pank you if you're bad.
I won't hurt you, though.
I won't give you castor oil
Nor call you little pig
When you grow down little
And I grow up big.

When I am the mamma,
Then we'll play and play,
And I'll tell you stories
All day, every day.
When we're tired, we'll find some dirt
And we'll dig and dig,
When you grow down little
And I grow up big.

To Keep from Drowning.

The human body weighs a pound in the water and a single chair will carry two grown persons—that is, it will keep the head above water, which is all that is necessary when it is a question of life or death. One finger placed upon a stool or chair or a small box or piece of board, will keep the head above water, while the two feet and the other hand may be used as paddles to propel the body toward the shore. It is not at all necessary to know how to swim to keep from drowning. A little experience of the buoyant power of the water, and faith in it, is all that is required.

We have seen a small boy, who could not swim a stroke, propel himself back and forth across a wide, deep pond by means of a small board that would not sustain five pounds weight. Children and all others should have practice in the sustaining power of water. In nine cases out of ten the knowledge that what will support a pound weight is all that is necessary to keep one's head above water will serve better emergencies than the greatest expertness as a swimmer.

A person unfamiliar with the buoyant power of water will naturally try to climb to the top of the floating object on which he tries to save himself. If it is large enough, that is all right. But generally it is not large enough, and half a struggling group is often drowned in a desperate scramble of a life and death struggle to climb on top of a piece of wreck or other floating object, not half large enough to keep them all entirely above water.

This often happens when pleasure boats capsize. All immediately want to get out of the water on top of the overturned or half-filled boat, and all are drowned except those whom the wrecked craft will wholly bear up. If they would simply trust the water to sustain ninety-nine hundredths of the weight of their bodies and the disabled boat the other hundredth, they might be saved under most circumstances. An over-turned or water-filled boat will sustain more people in this way

than it will carry. It would keep the heads of as many people above water as could get their hands on the gunwale.

Old Comparison.

The people around the little mountain town, says the Yakima (Wash.) Herald, called him "Old Comparison," and I knew in a general way why the sobriquet had been given him, but I did not, during my month's stay, have an opportunity to test it, though I had a speaking acquaintance with him. One day I was passing his house, and he was sitting on the steps of the little vine-clad porch in front.

"Good morning," I said. "It's a lovely day."

"Finer'n silk," he replied.

"How are you this morning?"

"Friskier'n a colt."

"How's your wife?"

"Pearter'n a pullet."

"The weather is very hot and dry for this season, don't you think?"

"Hotter'n a run horse and drier'n a leen shirt."

"I suppose you went to the wedding last night in the meeting house? A pretty bride, I thought."

"Purtier'n a speckled dog."

"The young man is very rich, I hear?"

"Richer'n fertilizer a foot thick."

"By the way, are you willing to sell me those saw logs Brown couldn't take off your hands?"

"Williner'n a girl to get spliced."

"When can I see them?"

"Quicker'n a lamb can shake his tail."

And the old man grabbed his hat and stick and led the way to the river, offering no remark, but answering all questions as usual.

A few years ago Ingersoll's lectures and writings, full of bad and bitter railing against God and the Bible had hosts of hearers and readers. Now his name is rarely mentioned. He lectures on bitterly as ever, but few listen and the press takes small notice. Contrast Moody. For thirty years he has told the Old, Old Story far and wide, and still the multitudes throng him. Those who know the story best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. Those who do not accent it find nothing in the other to satisfy their longings and their consciences tell them that God and his claims are true and for their good. Well may Christian workers possess their souls in patience nor grow weary or fearful when men insult God and other men hear and echo the blasphemy.

Says an English correspondent of the Eight Hour Herald. I asked John Burns what was the greatest cause of poverty in England.

"Drink," was the laconic reply.

"What is the greatest obstacle to the advancement of the working classes?"

"Drink," he said again.

"What is the reason that the working classes of Great Britain are less intelligent, less tidy and less ambitious than those of the United States?"

"Drink," he again ejaculated.

"What is the greatest incentive to crime and vice among the working people?"

"Drink."

"Is there any hope for the elevation of the working classes of your country to the same standard as those in the United States?" I asked.

"Not so long as there is a public house at every cross-road in Great Britain," he replied.

God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please—you can never have both. Between these, as a pendulum, man oscillates. He in whom the love of repose predominates will accept the first creed, the first philosophy, the first political party he meets—most likely his father's. He gets rest, commodity, and reputation; but he shuts the door of truth. He in whom the love of truth predominates, will keep himself from all moorings and afloat. He will abstain from dogmatism, and recognize all the opposite negatons between which, as walls, his being is swung. He submits to the inconvenience of suspense and imperfect opinion, but he is a candidate for truth, as the other is not, and respects the highest law of his being—Emerson.

"This world is not a very fine place for a good many of the people in it. But I've made up my mind it shant be the worse for me if I can help it. They tell me I can't alter the world—that there must be a certain number of sneaks and robbers in it, and if I don't lie and sileh, somebody else will. Well, then, somebody else will, for I won't. I will never be one of the sleek dogs—I would never choose to withdraw myself from the labors and common burden of the world; but I do choose to withdraw myself from the push and scramble for money and position. Any man is at liberty to call me a fool, and say that mankind are benefited by the push and scramble in the long run; but I care for the people who are alive now, and will not be living when the long run comes."—"Felix Holt," George Eliot.

A RELIABLE OFFER.

HONEST HELP FREE TO MEN.

The Nor'-West Farmer is authorized to state by Mr. D. Graham, Box 133, Hagersville, Ont., that any man who is nervous debilitated or who is suffering from the various troubles resulting from overwork, excess or abuse, such as nervous debility, exhausted vitality, lost vigor, unnatural drains and losses, lack of development, etc., can write to him in strict confidence and receive FREE OF CHARGE full instructions how to be thoroughly cured.

Mr. Graham himself was for a long time a sufferer from above troubles and after trying in vain many advertized remedies, electric belts, etc. became almost entirely discouraged and hopeless. Finally he confided in an old Clergyman, whose kind and honest advice enabled him to speedily obtain a perfect and permanent cure. Knowing to his own sorrow that so many poor sufferers are being imposed upon by unscrupulous quacks, Mr. Graham considers it his duty as an honest man and a firm believer in christian sympathy and kindness, to give his fellow-men the benefit of his experience and assist them to a cure. Having nothing to sell, he asks for no money, the proud satisfaction of having done a great service to one in need, he rightly considers an ample reward for his trouble. If you write to Mr. Graham you can rely upon being cured and upon absolute secrecy as well.

Address as above, enclosing a stamp, and refer to The Nor'-West Farmer. No attention however will be given to those writing out of mere curiosity, therefore state that you really need a cure.

IT PAYS

To have an advertisement in the columns of The Nor'-West Farmer—that is, if you want to reach the farm homes of Western Canada.



June.

The world is beautiful:
The breezes stop to kiss the bending rose,
The morning wakes the bees' low, sleepy
tune,
Rare days with blue skies beaming lov-
ingly,
And this—and this is June:
The world is beautiful.

* * *

I think, in Heav'n, it must be always June,
And I would have it always June on
earth,
With wild bees rocking in the lily-cups,
And blackbirds calling to their noisy
mates.
I like not that the year should faded grow,
And sad and comfortless, die on a plain
Of frost. I think God gives us June to
let
Us know how beautiful His Heaven is,
Where never yet was found a faded flow-
er;
I think, in Heav'n it must be always
June.

Rules for Home Education.

The following rules are worthy of being
placed in a conspicuous position in every
household:—

1. From your children's earliest infancy
you must inculcate the necessity for in-
stant obedience.
2. Unite firmness with gentleness. Let
your children understand exactly what
you say.
3. Never promise them anything unless
you are sure you can give them what you
promise.
4. If you tell a child to do something,
show him how to do it, and see that it is
done.
5. Always punish your children for wil-
fully disobeying you, but never punish in
anger.
6. Never let them see that they can vex
you or make you lose your self-command.
7. If they give way to petulance and
temper, wait till they are calm, and gently
remonstrate with them on the impropriety
of their conduct.
8. Remember that a little present pun-
ishment, when the occasion arises is much
more effective than the threatening of a
great punishment, should the fault be re-
newed.
9. Never give your children anything
because they cry for it.
10. On no account allow them to do at
one time what you have forbidden, under
like circumstances, at another.
11. Never substitute reproach for re-
proof nor a jibe for an admonition.

The Ram's Horn says the farmer who
tries to earn his bread by the sweat of the
hired man's brow, will have to go with-
out pie for breakfast.

A little bit of patience often
Makes the sunshine come;
A little bit of love makes a
Very happy home;
A little bit of hope makes a
Rainy day look gay,
And a little bit of charity
Makes glad a weary way.

The Coming of His Feet.

In the crimson of the morning, in the
whiteness of the noon,
In the amber glory of the day's retreat,
In the midnight, robed in darkness, or
the gleaming of the moon,
I listen for the coming of His feet.

I have heard His weary footsteps on the
sands of Galilee,
On the temple's marble pavement, on
the street,
Worn with weight of sorrow, faltering up
the slopes of Calvary,
The sorrow of the coming of His feet.
Down the minster-aisles of splendor, from
betwixt the cherubim,
Through the wondering throng, with
motion strong and fleet,
Sounds His victor tread, approaching
with a music far and dim
The music of the coming of His feet.

Sandaled not with shoon of silver, girdled
not with woven gold,
Weighted not with shimmering gems
and odors sweet,
But white-winged and shod with glory in
the Tabor-light of old—
The glory of the coming of His feet.

He is coming, O my spirit! with his ever-
lasting peace,
With His blessedness immortal and
complete,
He is coming, O my spirit! and His com-
ing brings release,
I listen for the coming of His feet.

—Independent.

Heredity and Individual Responsibility.

It is always asked how can one account
for those cases of criminals who beget a
frightful array of criminals, examples of
which are quoted in most works on here-
dity? The fact is, they are not begotten
in sin, but that they are nurtured and
brought up in it. Ah! but you reply, how
about those who are adopted by righteous
and well-to-do people, as not infrequently
occurs, and, in spite of those surroundings
and a good education, return to the old
ways of sin and deceit? How about the
cases of inheritance of morbid tastes?
These questions bring us to the most im-
portant part of the whole subject—that of
individual responsibility in relation to a
sinister inheritance. I believe, in view of
the great possibilities of cultivation of the
human powers, that such an inheritance
can be overcome, provided the will of the
individual is sufficiently aroused. It is
necessary that the person become fully
aware of the tendencies, and that a suffi-
ciently strong desire be aroused to over-
come them. The animal, without the
highest development of the reasoning
powers, without the higher faculties of the
will and the intellect and a spiritual nature,
could not throw off heredity, which real-
ly becomes to him his guiding power;
but the individual endowed with con-
science, will, a knowledge of himself and
what he owes to himself and to others,
can make his inheritance his kingdom or
can reject it. The child of drunken
parents, through the intense disgust at the
spectacle that they present of lack of self-
control and improvidence, has no tempta-
tion to yield to such inherited taste.

The key of the situation is to know
one's inherited tendencies. The mind, the
faculties, and these tendencies are like a
field for cultivation. The weeds can be
uprooted; the tender plants of genius,
ability, and virtue can be cultivated and
made to thrive.—Grace Peckham Murray,
M.D., in Harper's Bazar.

"Don't Tell It."

Your neighbor's name,
Or your friend's good fame,
And what befell it.
In deed or word,
You may have heard,
Yet, pray, don't tell it.

If kept within,
This rumored sin,
May prove a bubble;
If sown again,
Like thriving grain,
'Twill soon grow double.

Instead of peace,
If strife increase,
Then try to quell it.
Think what you will,
Of harm or ill,
But, pray, don't tell it.

Things Everyone Should Know.

A mile is 320 rods.
A mile is 5,280 feet.
A mile is 1,760 yards.
A rod is $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet or $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards.
A square rod is $272\frac{1}{4}$ square feet.
An acre contains 160 square rods.
An acre contains 43,560 square feet.
An acre is about $208\frac{3}{4}$ feet square.
An acre contains 4,840 square yards.
An acre is 8 rods wide by 20 rods long.
A quarter section contains 160 acres.
An acre is 10 rods wide by 16 rods long.
A pint of water weighs one pound.
A solid foot contains 7.48 solid pints.
A square foot is 144 square inches.
A pint of water holds $28\frac{1}{2}$ solid inches.
A gallon of water holds 231 solid inches.
A solid foot of water weighs $62\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
A barrel ($31\frac{1}{2}$ gallons) holds $4\frac{1}{2}$ solid
feet.
A section, or square mile, contains 640
acres.
A bushel (struck) contains 2,150 solid
inches.
A gallon of milk weighs 8 pounds, 10
ounces.
A struck bushel contains about $1\frac{1}{4}$ solid
feet.
A bushel (heaping) contains $1\frac{1}{4}$ struck
bushels.—Year Book and Encyclopaedia.

The Bicycle Girl.

A sweet young girl on a summer night
went out on her bike in the bright
moonlight. She pedaled around from six
to ten, on a trip that'd fag the strongest
man, but her heart was light and her
spirit gay, for t wasn't work; it was noth-
ing but play. Next morning, however,
she'd a pain in her head, she was all
played out, and she stayed in bed, while
her mother hustled in the kitchen below
—not to ride a wheel, but to make things
go. Though the morning was hot and
she worked by the fire, she didn't col-
lapse with a punctured tire. Take a look
round if you want to see who in thunder
this could be.

People are beginning to see that the
first requisite to success in life is to be a
good animal. The best brain is found of
little service if there be not enough vital
energy to work it; and hence to obtain
the one by the sacrifice of the source of
the other is now considered a folly—a fol-
ly which the eventual failure of juvenile
prodigies constantly illustrates. Thus we
are constantly discovering the wisdom of
the saying, "To know how wisely to lose
time."—Herbert Spencer.

The House Mother.

Setting tables, washing dishes,
Sweeping rooms and making bread,
Dusting books and sewing buttons,
Smoothing now a curly head.

Making, mending little garments,
In a mother's dearest style;
Washing little hands and faces,
Planning something all the while.

Trimming lamps or hearing lessons,
Putting this or that in place;
Tired feet and busy fingers
Giving home its nameless grace

Folding tiny hands together,
Teaching infant lips to pray;
Singing cradle hymns so softly,
Mother's work ends not with day.

Lucy Randolph Fleming.

Cranford.

(Continued from Last Issue.)

The expenditure on dress in Cranford was principally in that one article referred to. If the heads were buried in smart new caps, the ladies were like ostriches, and cared not what became of their bodies. Old gowns, white and venerable collars, any number of brooches, up and down and every where (some with dogs' eyes painted in them; some that were like small picture-frames with mausoleums and weeping-willows neatly executed in hair outside; some, again, with miniatures of ladies and gentlemen sweetly smiling out of a nest of stiff muslin), old brooches for a permanent ornament, and new caps to suit the fashion of the day—the ladies of Cranford always dressed with chaste elegance and propriety, as Miss Barker once prettily expressed it.

And with three new caps, and a greater array of brooches than had ever been seen together at one time since Cranford was a town, did Mrs. Forrester, and Miss Matty, and Miss Pole appear on that memorable Tuesday evening. I counted seven brooches myself on Miss Pole's dress. Two were fixed negligently in her cap (one was a butterfly made of Scotch pebbles, which a vivid imagination might believe to be the real insect); one fastened her net neckerchief; one her collar; one ornamented the front of her gown, midway between her throat and waist, and another adorned the point of her stomacher. Where the seventh was I have forgotten, but it was somewhere about her, I am sure.

But I am getting on too fast in describing the dresses of the company. I should first relate the gathering on the way to Mrs. Jamieson's. That lady lived in a large house just outside the town. A road which had known what it was to be a street ran right before the house, which opened out upon it without any intervening garden or court. Whatever the sun was about, he never shone on the front of that house. To be sure, the living rooms were at the back, looking on to a pleasant garden; the front windows only belonged to kitchens and housekeepers' rooms and pantries, and in one of them Mr. Mulliner was reported to sit. Indeed, looking askance, we often saw the back of a head covered with hair-powder, which also extended itself over his coat collar down to his very waist; and this imposing back was always engaged in reading the St. James's Chronicle, opened wide, which, in some degree, accounted for the length of time, the said newspaper was in reaching us—equal subscribers with Mrs. Jamieson, though, in right of her honorableness, she always had the reading of it first. This very Tuesday, the delay in forwarding the last number had been particularly

aggravating; just when both Miss Pole and Miss Matty, the former more especially, had been wanting to see it, in order to coach up the court news for the evening's interview with the aristocracy. Miss Pole told us she had absolutely taken time by the forelock, and been dressed by five o'clock, in order to be ready if the St. James's Chronicle should come in at the last moment—the very St. James's Chronicle which the powdered head was tranquilly and composedly reading as we passed the accustomed window this evening.

"The impudence of the man!" said Miss Pole, in a low, indignant whisper. "I should like to ask him whether his mistress pays her quarter share for his exclusive use."

We looked at her in admiration of the courage of her thought; for Mr. Mulliner was an object of great awe to all of us. He seemed never to have forgotten his condescension in coming to live at Cranford. Miss Jenkyns, at times, had stood forth as the undaunted champion of her sex, and spoken to him on terms of equality; but even Miss Jenkyns could get no higher. In his pleasantest and most gracious moods he looked like a sulky cockatoo. He did not speak except in gruff monosyllables. He would wait in the hall when we begged him not to wait, and then look deeply offended because we had kept him there, while, with trembling, hasty hands we prepared ourselves for appearing in company.

Miss Pole ventured on a small joke as we went upstairs, intended, though addressed to us, to afford Mr. Mulliner some slight amusement. We all smiled, in order to seem as if we felt at our ease, and timidly looked for Mr. Mulliner's sympathy. Not a muscle of that wooden face had relaxed; and we were grave in an instant.

Mrs. Jamieson's drawing room was cheerful; the evening sun came streaming into it, and the large square window was clustered round with flowers. The furniture was white and gold; not the later style, Louis Quatorze, I think they call it, all shells and twirls; no, Mrs. Jamieson's chairs and tables had not a curve or bend about them. The chair and table legs diminished as they neared the ground, and were straight and square in all their corners. The chairs were all a-row against the walls, with the exception of four or five, which stood in a circle round the fire. They were railed with white bars across the back, and nobbed with gold; neither the railings nor the nobbs invited to ease. There was a japanned table devoted to literature, on which lay a Bible, a Peerage, and a Prayer-book. There was another square Pembroke table dedicated to the Fine Arts, on which were a kaleidoscope, conversation cards, puzzle cards (tied together to an interminable length with faded pink satin ribbon), and a box painted in fond imitation of the drawings which decorate tea-chests. Carlo lay on the worsted-worked rug, and ungraciously barked at us as we entered. Mrs. Jamieson stood up, giving us each a torpid smile of welcome, and looking helplessly beyond us at Mr. Mulliner, as if she hoped he would place us in chairs, for, if he did not, she never could. I suppose he thought we could find our way to the circle round the fire, which reminded me of Stonehenge, I don't know why. Lady Glenmire came to the rescue of our hostess, and, somehow or other, we found ourselves for the first time placed agreeably, and not formally, in Mrs. Jamieson's house. Lady Glenmire, now we had time to look at her, proved to be a bright little woman of middle age, who had been very pretty in the days of her youth, and who was even yet very pleasant-looking. I saw Miss Pole approving her dress in the first five min-

utes, and I take her word when she said the next day—

"My dear! ten pounds would have purchased every stitch she had on—lace and all."

It was very pleasant to suspect that a peeress could be poor, and partly reconciled us to the fact that her husband had never sat in the House of Lords; which when we first heard of it, seemed a kind of swindling us out of our respect on false pretences; a sort of "A Lord and no Lord" business.

We were all very silent at first. We were thinking what we could talk about that should be high enough to interest My Lady. There had been a rise in the price of sugar, which, as preserving-time was near, was a piece of intelligence to all our housekeeping hearts, and would have been the natural topic if Lady Glenmire had not been by. But we were not sure if the peerage ate preserves—much less know how they were made. At last, Miss Pole, who had always a great deal of courage and savoir faire, spoke to Lady Glenmire, who on her part had seemed just as much puzzled to know how to break the silence as we were.

"Has your ladyship been to Court lately?" asked she; and then gave a little glance round at us, half timid and half triumphant, as much as to say, "See how judiciously I have chosen a subject befitting the rank of the stranger."

"I never was there in my life," said Lady Glenmire, with a broad Scotch accent, but in a very sweet voice. And then, as if she had been too abrupt, she added: "We very seldom went to London—only twice, in fact, during all my married life; and before I was married my father had far too large a family" (fifth daughter of Mr. Campbell was in all our minds, I am sure) "to take us often from our home, even to Edinburgh. Ye'll have been in Edinburgh, maybe?" said she, suddenly brightening up with the hope of common interest. We had none of us been there; but Miss Pole had an uncle who once had passed a night there, which was very pleasant.

Mrs. Jamieson, meanwhile, was absorbed in wonder why Mr. Mulliner did not bring the tea; and at length the wonder oozed out of her mouth.

"I had better ring the bell, my dear, had not I?" said Lady Glenmire, briskly.

"No—I think not—Mulliner does not like to be hurried."

We should have liked our tea, for we dined at an earlier hour than Mrs. Jamieson. I suspect Mr. Mulliner had to finish

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the St. James's Chronicle before he chose to trouble himself about tea. His mistress fidgeted and fidgeted, and kept saying, "I can't think why Mulliner does not bring tea." I can't think what he can be about." And Lady Glenmire at last grew quite impatient, but it was a pretty kind of impatience after all; and she rang the bell rather sharply, on receiving a half permission from her sister-in-law to do so. Mr. Mulliner appeared in dignified surprise. "Oh!" said Mrs. Jamieson, "Lady Glenmire rang the bell; I believe it was for tea."

In a few minutes tea was brought. Very delicate was the china, very old the plate, very thin the bread and butter, and very small the lumps of sugar. Sugar was evidently Mrs. Jamieson's favorite economy. I question if the little filigree sugar-tongs, made something like scissors, could have opened themselves wide enough to take up an honest, vulgar, good-sized piece; and when I tried to seize two little minikin pieces at once, so as not to be detected in too many returns to the sugar-basin, they absolutely dropped one, with a little sharp clatter, quite in a malicious and unnatural manner. But before this happened, we had had a slight disappointment. In the little silver jug was cream, in the larger one was milk. As soon as Mr. Mulliner came in, Carlo began to beg, which was a thing our manners forbade us to do, though I am sure we were just as hungry; and Mrs. Jamieson said she was certain we would excuse her if she gave poor dumb Carlo his tea first. She accordingly mixed a saucerful for him, and put it down for him to lap; and then she told us how intelligent and sensible the dear little fellow was; he knew cream quite well, and constantly refused tea with only milk in it; so the milk was left for us; but we silently thought we were quite as intelligent and sensible as Carlo, and felt as if insult were added to injury when we were called upon to admire the gratitude evinced by his wagging his tail for the cream which should have been ours.

After tea we thawed down into common life-subjects. We were thankful to Lady Glenmire for having proposed some more bread and butter, and this mutual want made us better acquainted with her than we should ever have been with talking about the Court, though Miss Pole did say she had hoped to know how the dear Queen was from some one who had seen her.

The friendship begun over bread and butter extended on to cards. Lady Glenmire played Preference to admiration, and was a complete authority as to Ombre and Quadrille. Even Miss Pole quite forgot to say "my lady," and "your ladyship," and said "Basto! ma'am;" "you have Spadille, I believe," just as quietly as if we had never held the great Cranford parliament on the subject of the proper mode of addressing a peeress.

As a proof of how thoroughly we had forgotten that we were in the presence of one who might have sat down to tea with a coronet instead of a cap on her head, Mrs. Forrester related a curious little fact to Lady Glenmire—an anecdote known to the circle of her intimate friends, but of which even Mrs. Jamieson was not aware. It related to some fine old lace, the sole relic of better days, which Lady Glenmire was admiring on Mrs. Forrester's collar.

"Yes," said that lady, "such lace cannot be got now for either love or money; made by the nuns abroad, they tell me. They say that they can't make it now, even there. But perhaps they can now they've passed the Catholic Emancipation Bill. I should not wonder. But in the meantime, I treasure up my lace very much. I daren't even trust the washing of it to my maid" (the little charity school-girl I have named before, but who

sounded well as "my maid"). "I always wash it myself. And once it had a narrow escape. Of course, your ladyship knows that such lace must never be starched or ironed. Some people wash it in sugar and water, and some in coffee, to make it the right yellow color; but I myself have a very good receipt for washing it in milk, which stiffens it enough, and gives it a very creamy color. Well, ma'am, I had tacked it together (and the beauty of this fine lace is that, when it is wet, it goes into a very little space), and put it to soak in milk, when, unfortunately, I left the room; on my return I found pussy on the table, looking very like a thief, but gulping very uncomfortably, as if she was half-choked with something she wanted to swallow and could not. And, would you believe it? At first I pitied her, and said 'Poor pussy! poor pussy!' till, all at once, I looked and saw the cup of milk empty—cleaned out! 'You naughty cat!' said I; and I believe I was provoked enough to give her a slap, which did no good, but only helped the lace down—just as one slaps a choking child on the back. I could have cried, I was so vexed; but I determined I would not give the lace up without a struggle for it. I hoped the lace might disagree with her, at any rate; but it would have been too much for Job, if he had seen, as I did, that cat come in, quite placid and purring, not a quarter of an hour after, and almost expecting to be stroked. 'No, pussy!' said I, 'if you have any conscience you ought not to expect that!' And then a thought struck me; and I rang the bell for my maid, and sent her to Mr. Hoggins, with my compliments, and would he be kind enough to lend me one of his top-boots for an hour? I did not think there was anything odd in the message; but Jenny said the young men in the surgery laughed as if they would be ill at my wanting a top-boot. When it came, Jenny and I put pussy in, with her fore-feet straight down, so that they were fastened, and could not scratch, and we gave her a teaspoonful of currant-jelly in which (your ladyship must excuse me) I had mixed some tartar emetic. I shall never forget how anxious I was for the next half hour. I took pussy to my own room, and spread a clean towel on the floor. I could have kissed her when she returned the lace to sight, very much as it had gone down. Jenny had boiling water ready, and we soaked it and soaked it, and spread it on a lavender-bush in the sun before I could touch it again, even to put it in milk. But now your ladyship would never guess that it had been in pussy's inside."

We found out, in the course of the evening, that Lady Glenmire was going to pay Mrs. Jamieson a long visit, as she had given up her apartments in Edinburgh, and had no ties to take her back there in a hurry. On the whole, we were rather glad to hear this, for she had made a pleasant impression upon us; and it was also very comfortable to find, from things which dropped out in the course of conversation, that, in addition to many other genteel qualities, she was far removed from the "vulgarity of wealth."

"Don't you find it very unpleasant walking?" asked Mrs. Jamieson, as our respective servants were announced. It was a pretty regular question from Mrs. Jamieson, who had her own carriage in the coach house, and always went out in a sedan-chair to the very shortest distances. The answers were nearly as much a matter of course.

"Oh, dear, no! it is so pleasant and still at night!" "Such a refreshment after the excitement of a party!" "The stars are so beautiful!" This last was from Miss Matty.

"Are you fond of astronomy?" Lady Glenmire asked.

"Not very," replied Miss Matty, rather confused at the moment to remember which was astronomy and which was astrology—but the answer was true under either circumstances, for she read, and was slightly alarmed at Francis Moore's astrological predictions; and, as to astronomy, in a private and confidential conversation, she had told me she never could believe that the earth was moving constantly, and that she would not believe it if she could, it made her feel so tired and dizzy whenever she thought about it.

In our pattens we picked our way home with extra care that night, so refined and delicate were our perceptions after drinking tea with "my lady."

CHAPTER IX.

Soon after the events of which I gave an account in my last paper, I was summoned home by my father's illness; and for a time I forgot in anxiety about him, to wonder how my dear friends at Cranford were getting on, or how Lady Glenmire could reconcile herself to the dullness of the long visit which she was still paying to her sister-in-law, Mrs. Jamieson. When my father grew a little stronger I accompanied him to the seaside, so that altogether I seemed banished from Cranford, and was deprived of the opportunity of hearing any chance intelligence of the dear little town for the greater part of that year.

Late in November—when we had returned home again, and my father was once more in good health—I received a letter from Miss Matty; and a very mysterious letter it was. She began many sentences without ending them, running them one into another, in much the same confused sort of way in which writer's words run together on blotting-paper. All I could make out was that, if my father was better (which she hoped he was), and would take warning and wear a great-coat from Michaelmas to Lady-day, if turbans were in fashion, could I tell her? Such a piece of gayety was going to happen as had not been seen or known of since Wombwell's lions came, when one of them ate a little child's arm; and she was, perhaps, too old to care about dress, but a new cap she must have; and, having heard that turbans were worn, and some of the county families likely to come she would like to look tidy, if I would bring her a cap from the milliner I employed; and oh, dear! how careless of her to forget that she wrote to beg I would come and pay her a visit next Tuesday; when she hoped to have something to offer me in the way of amusement, which she would not now more particularly describe, only sea-green was her favorite color. So she ended her letter; but in a P. S. she added, she thought she might as well tell me what was the peculiar attraction to Cranbrook just now; Signor Brunoni was going to exhibit his wonderful magic in the Cranford Assembly Rooms on Wednesday and Friday evening in the following week.

I was very glad to accept the invitation from my dear Miss Matty, independently of the conjurer, and most particularly anxious to prevent her from disfiguring her small, gentle, mousey face with a great Saracen's head turban; and, accordingly, I bought her a pretty, neat, middle-aged cap, which, however, was rather a disappointment to her when, on my arrival, she followed me into my bedroom, ostensibly to poke the fire, but in reality, I do believe, to see if the sea-green turban was not inside the cap-box with which I had traveled. It was in vain that I twirled the cap round on my hand to exhibit back and side-fronts; her heart had been set upon a turban, and all she could do was to say, with resignation in her look and voice—

"I am sure you did your best, my dear. It is just like the caps all the ladies in Cranford are wearing, and they have had theirs for a year, I daresay. I should have liked something newer, I confess—something more like the turbans Miss Betty Barker tells me Queen Adelaide wears; but it is very pretty, my dear. And I daresay lavender will wear better than sea-green. Well, after all, what is dress, that we should care about it! You'll tell me if you want anything, my dear. Here is the bell. I suppose turbans have not got down to Drumble yet?"

So saying, the dear old lady gently be-moaned herself out of the room, leaving me to dress for the evening, when as she informed me, she expected Miss Pole and Mrs. Forrester, and she hoped I should not feel myself too much tired to join the party. Of course I should not; and I made some haste to unpack and arrange my dress; but, with all my speed, I heard the arrivals and the buzz of conversation in the next room before I was ready. Just as I opened the door, I caught the words, "I was foolish to expect anything very genteel out of the Drumble shops; poor girl! she did her best, I've no doubt." But, for all that, I had rather that she blamed Drumble and me than disfigured herself with a turban.

Miss Pole was always the person, in the trio of Cranford ladies now assembled, to have had adventures. She was in the habit of spending the morning in rambling from shop to shop, not to purchase anything (except an occasional reel of cotton, or a piece of tape), but to see the new articles and report upon them, and to collect all the stray pieces of intelligence in the town. She had a way, too, of demurely popping hither and thither into all sorts of places to gratify her curiosity on any point—a way which, if she had not looked so very genteel and prim, might have been considered impertinent. And now, by the expressive way in which she cleared her throat, and waited for all minor subjects (such as caps and turbans) to be cleared off the course, we knew she had something very particular to relate, when the due pause came—and I defy any people, possessed of common modesty, to keep up a conversation long, where one among them sits up aloft in silence, looking down upon all the things they chance to say as trivial and contemptible compared to what they could disclose, if properly entreated. Miss Pole began—

"As I was stepping out of Gordon's shop to-day, I chanced to go into the 'George' (my Betty has a second cousin who is chambermaid there, and I thought Betty would like to hear how she was), and not seeing anyone about, I strolled up the staircase, and found myself in the passage leading to the Assembly Room (you and I remember the Assembly Room, I am sure, Miss Matty; and the menuets de la cour!); so I went on, not thinking of what I was about, when, all at once, I perceived that I was in the middle of the preparations for to-morrow night—the room being divided with great clothes-maids, over which Crosby's men were tacking red-flannel; very dark and odd it seemed; it quite bewildered me, and I was going on behind the screens, in my absence of mind, when a gentleman (quite a gentleman, I can assure you) stepped forwards and asked if I had any business he could arrange for me. He spoke such pretty broken English, I could not help thinking of Thaddeus of Warsaw, and the Hungarian Brothers, and Santo Sebastiani; and while I was busy picturing his past life to myself, he had bowed me out of the room. But wait a minute! You have not heard half my story yet! I was going down stairs, when who should I meet but Betty's second cousin. So, of course, I stopped to speak to her for Bet-

ty's sake; and she told me that I had really seen the conjurer—the gentleman who spoke broken English was Signor Brunoni himself. Just at this moment he passed us on the stairs, making such a graceful bow! in reply to which I dropped a curtesy—all foreigners have such polite manners, one catches something of it. But, when he had gone down stairs, I bethought me that I had dropped my glove in the Assembly Room (it was safe in my muff all the time, but I never found it till afterwards); so I went back, and, just as I was creeping up the passage left on one side of the great screen that goes nearly across the room, who should I see but the very same gentleman that had met me before, and passed me on the stairs, coming now forward from the inner part of the room, to which there is no entrance—you remember, Miss Matty—and just repeating, in his pretty broken English, the inquiry if I had any business there—I don't mean that he put it quite so bluntly, but he seemed very determined that I should not pass the screen—so, of course, I explained about my glove,

which, curiously enough, I found at that very moment."

Miss Pole, then, had seen the conjurer—the real, live conjurer! and numerous were the questions we all asked her. "Had he a beard?" "Was he young, or old?" "Fair, or dark?" "Did he look?" — (unable to shape my question prudently, I put it in another form) — "How did he look?" In short, Miss Pole was the heroine of the evening, owing to her morning's encounter. If she was not the rose (that is to say, the conjurer), she had been near it.

Conjuration, sleight of hand, magic, witchcraft, were the subjects of the evening. Miss Pole was slightly skeptical, and inclined to think there might be a scientific solution found for even the proceedings of the Witch of Endor. Mrs. Forrester believed everything, from ghosts to death-watches. Miss Matty ranged between the two—always convinced by the last speaker. I think she was naturally more inclined to Mrs. Forrester's side, but a desire of proving herself a worthy sister to Miss Jenkyns kept her equally



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balanced—Miss Jenkyns, who could never allow a servant to call the little rolls of tallow that formed themselves round candles "winding sheets," but insisted on their being spoken of as "role-y-poleys!" A sister of her to be superstitious! It would never do.

After tea, I was dispatched down stairs into the dining parlor for that volume of the old Encyclopaedia which contained the nouns beginning with C, in order that Miss Pole might prime herself with scientific explanations for the tricks of the following evening. It spoilt the pool at Preference which Miss Matty and Mrs. Forrester had been looking forward to, for Miss Pole became so much absorbed in her subject, and the plates by which it was illustrated, that we felt it would be cruel to disturb her otherwise than by one or two well-timed yawns, which I threw in now and then, for I was really touched by the meek way in which the two ladies were bearing their disappointment. But Miss Pole only read the more zealously, imparting to us no more information than this—

"Ah, I see; I comprehend perfectly. A represents the ball. Put A between B and D—no! between C and F, and turn the second joint of the third finger of your left hand over the wrist of right H. Very clear indeed! My dear Mrs. Forrester, conjuring and witchcraft is a mere affair of the alphabet. Do let me read you this one passage."

Mrs. Forrester implored Miss Pole to spare her, saying, from a child upwards, she never could understand being read aloud to; and I dropped the pack of cards, which I had been shuffling very audibly, and by this discreet movement I obliged Miss Pole to perceive that Preference was to have been the order of the evening, and to propose rather unwillingly, that the pool should commence. The pleasant brightness that stole over the other two ladies' faces on this! Miss Matty had one or two twinges of self-reproach for having interrupted Miss Pole in her studies; and did not remember her cards well, or give her full attention to the game, until she had soothed her conscience by offering to lend the volume of the Encyclopaedia to Miss Pole, who accepted it thankfully, and said Betty should take it home when she came with the lantern.

The next evening we were all in a little gentle flutter at the idea of the gayety before us. Miss Matty went up to dress betimes, and hurried me until I was ready, when we found we had an hour and a half to sit before the "doors opened at seven precisely." And we had only twenty yards to go. However, as Miss Matty said it would not do to get too much absorbed in anything and forget the time; so she thought we had better sit quietly without lighting the candles, till five minutes to seven. So Miss Matty dozed, and I knitted.

At length we set off, and at the door, under the carriage-way at the "George," we met Mrs. Forrester and Miss Pole—the latter was discussing the subject of the evening with more vehemence than ever, and throwing A's and B's at our heads like hailstones. She had even copied one or two of the "receipts"—as she called them—for the different tricks, on backs of letters, ready to explain and to detect Signor Brunoni's arts.

We went into the cloak room adjoining the Assembly Room: Miss Matty gave a sigh or two to her departed youth, and the remembrance of the last time she had been there, as she adjusted her pretty new cap before the strange, quaint old mirror in the cloak-room. The Assembly Room had been added to the inn, about a hundred years before, by the different county families, who met together there once a month during the winter to dance

and play cards. Many a county beauty had first swam through the minuet that she afterwards danced before Queen Charlotte in this very room. It was said that one of the Gunnings had graced the apartment with her beauty; it was certain that a rich and beautiful widow, Lady Williams, had here been smitten with the noble figure of a young artist, who was staying with some family in the neighborhood for professional purposes, and accompanied his patrons to the Cranford Assembly. And a pretty bargain poor Lady Williams had of her handsome husband, if all tales were true. Now, no beauty blushed and dimpled along the sides of the Cranford Assembly Room; no handsome artist won hearts by his bow, chapeau bras in hand; the old room was dingy; the salmon-colored paint had faded into a drab; great pieces of plaster had chipped off from the white wreaths and festoons on its walls; but still a moldy odor of aristocracy lingered about the place, and a dusty recollection of the days that were gone made Miss Matty and Mrs. Forrester bridle up as they entered, and walk mincingly up the room as if there were a number of genteel observers, instead of two little boys with a stick of taffy between them with which to beguile the time.

We stopped short at the second front row; I could hardly understand why, until I heard Miss Pole ask a stray waiter if any of the county families were expected; and when he shook his head, and believed not, Mrs. Forrester and Miss Matty moved forwards, and our party represented a conversational square. The front row was soon augmented and enriched by Lady Glenmire and Mrs. Jamieson. We six occupied the two front rows, and our aristocratic seclusion was respected by the groups of shopkeepers who strayed in from time to time and huddled together on the back benches. At least I conjectured so, from the noise they made, and the sonorous bumps they gave in sitting down; but when, in weariness of the obstinate green curtain that would not draw up, but would stare at me with two odd eyes, seen through holes, as in the old tapestry story, I would fain have looked around at the merry chattering people behind me, Miss Pole clutched my arm, and begged me not to turn, for "it was not the thing." What "the thing" was, I never could find out, but it must have been something eminently dull and tiresome. However, we all sat eyes right, square front, gazing at the tantalizing curtain, and hardly speaking intelligibly, we were so afraid of being caught in the vulgarity of making any noise in a place of public amusement. Mrs. Jamieson was the most fortunate, for she fell asleep.

At length the eyes disappeared—the curtain quivered—one side went up before the other, which stuck fast; it was dropped again, and, with a fresh effort, and a vigorous pull from some unseen hand, it flew up, revealing to our sight a magnificent gentleman in the Turkish costume, seated before a little table, gazing at us (I should have said with the same sad eyes that I had last seen through the hole in the curtain) with calm and condescending dignity, "like a being of another sphere," as I heard a sentimental voice ejaculate behind me.

"That's not Signor Brunoni!" said Miss Pole decidedly; and so audibly that I am sure he heard, for he glanced down over his flowing beard at our party with an air of mute reproach. "Signor Brunoni had no beard—but perhaps he'll come soon." So she lulled herself into patience. Meanwhile, Miss Matty had reconnoitered through her eye-glass, wiped it, and looked again. Then she turned round, and said to me, in a kind, mild, sorrowful tone—

"Your see, my dear, turbans are worn."

But we had no time for more conversation. The Grand Turk, as Miss Pole chose to call him, arose and announced himself as Signor Brunoni.

"I don't believe him!" exclaimed Miss Pole, in a defiant manner. He looked at her again, with the same dignified upbraiding in his countenance. "I don't!" she repeated more positively than ever. "Signor Brunoni had not got that muffy sort of thing about his chin, but looked like a close-shaved Christian gentleman."

Miss Pole's energetic speeches had the good effect of waking up Mrs. Jamieson, who opened her eyes wide, in sign of the deepest attention—a proceeding which silenced Miss Pole and encouraged the Grand Turk to proceed, which he did in very broken English—so broken that there was no cohesion between the parts of his sentences; a fact which he himself perceived at last, and so left off speaking and proceeded to action.

Now we were astonished. How he did his tricks I could not imagine; no, not even when Miss Pole pulled out her pieces of paper and began reading aloud—or at least in a very audible whisper—the separate "receipts," for the most common of his tricks. If ever I saw a man frown and look enraged, I saw the Grand Turk frown at Miss Pole; but, as she said, what could be expected but unchristian looks from a Mussulman? If Miss Pole were skeptical, and more engrossed with her receipts and diagrams than with his tricks, Miss Matty and Mrs. Forrester were mystified and perplexed to the highest degree. Mrs. Jamieson kept taking her spectacles off and wiping them, as if she thought it was something defective in them which made the legerdemain; and Lady Glenmire, who had seen many curious sights in Edinburgh, was very much struck with the tricks, and would not at all agree with Miss Pole, who declared that anybody could do them with a little practice, and that she would herself undertake to do all he did with two hours given to study the Encyclopaedia and make her third finger flexible.

At last Miss Matty and Mrs. Forrester became perfectly awe-stricken. They whispered together. I sat just behind them, so I could not help hearing what they were saying. Miss Matty asked Mrs. Forrester "if she thought it was quite right to have come to see such things?" She could not help fearing they were lending encouragement to something that was not quite— A little shake of the head filled up the blank. Mrs. Forrester replied that the same thought had crossed her mind; she, too, was feeling very uncomfortable, it was so very strange. She was quite certain that it was her pocket-handkerchief which was in that loaf just now; and it had been in her own hand not five minutes before. She wondered who had furnished the bread? She was sure it could not be Dakin, because he was the church warden. Suddenly Miss Matty half-turned towards me—

"Will you look, my dear—you are a stranger in the town, and it won't give rise to unpleasant reports—will you just look round and see if the rector is here? If he is, I think we may conclude that this wonderful man is sanctioned by the Church, and that will be a great relief to my mind."

I looked, and I saw the tall, thin, dry, dusty rector, sitting surrounded by National School boys, guarded by troops of his own sex from any approach of the many Cranford spinsters. His kind face was all agape with broad smiles, and the boys around him were in chinks of laughing. I told Miss Matty that the Church was smiling approval, which set her mind at ease.

I have never named Mr. Hayter, the rector, because I, as a well-to-do and happy young woman, never came in contact with

him. He was an old bachelor, but as afraid of matrimonial reports getting abroad about him as any girl of eighteen; and he would rush into a shop, or drive down an entry, sooner than encounter any of the Cranford ladies in the street; and, as for the Preference parties, I did not wonder at his not accepting invitations to them. To tell the truth, I always suspected Miss Pole of having given very vigorous chase to Mr. Hayter when he first came to Cranford; and not the less, because now she appeared to share so vividly in his dread lest her name should ever be coupled with his. He found all his interests among the poor and helpless; he had treated the National School boys this very night to the performance; and virtue was for once its own reward, for they guarded him right and left, and clung round him as if he had been the queen-been and they the swarm. He felt so safe in their environment that he could even afford to give our party a bow as we filed out. Miss Pole ignored his presence, and pretended to be absorbed in convincing us that we had been cheated, and had not seen Signor Brunoni after all.

(To be Continued.)

Longfellow on War.

Were half the power, that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth, bestowed on camps and courts,
Given to redeem the human mind from error,
There were no need of arsenals or forts.
The warrior's name would be a name abhorred!
And every nation, that should lift again its hand against a brother, on its forehead
Would wear forevermore the curse of Cain!
Down the dark future, through long generations,
The echoing sounds grow fainter and then cease;
And like a bell, with solemn, sweet vibrations,
I hear once more the voice of Christ say, "Peace!"
Peace! and no longer from its brazen portals
The blast of War's great organ shakes the skies!
But beautiful as songs of the immortals
The holy melodies of love arise.

Don't's.

Don't steal another man's good name, even if your own is worn out.
Don't raise your hand against your husband—broom-handles are plenty.
Don't pattern after the busy little bee. It's the other fellow that eats the honey.
Don't bet with your wife unless you are prepared to lose, whether you win or not.
Don't judge a man by the clothes he wears. Form your opinion from the wearing apparel of his wife.
Don't be a clam. If you must be anything of that kind, be a turtle. Then you will have a little snap about you.

For poison from poison ivy, dip cloths in hot water and lay on, and change frequently, or dip them in a weak solution of soda and water. This should be done as soon as possible after contact with the poison leaves, and the cloths kept constantly wet. This will prevent the formation of a crust which is so difficult to get rid of, and will allay the itching and burning.

Patriotic Voices from North and South.

A Southern Volunteer.

Yes, sir, I fought with Stonewall,
And faced the fight with Lee;
But if this here Union goes to war,
Make one more gun for me!
I didn't shrink from Sherman
As he galloped to the sea;
But if this here Union goes to war,
Make one more gun for me!

I was with 'em at Manassas—
The bully Boys in Gray;
I heard the thunders roarin'
Round Stonewall Jackson's way.
And many a time this sword of mine
Has blazed in front of Lee;
But if this here Union goes to war,
Make one more sword for me!

I'm not so full o' fightin',
Nor half so full o' fun
As I was back in the sixties,
When I shouldered my old gun;
It may be that my hair is white—
Sich things, you know, must be.
But if this old Union goes to war,
Make one more gun for me!

I hain't forgot my raisin'—
Nor how in sixty-two
Or thereabouts, with battle-shouts
I charged the Boys in Blue;
And I say I fought with Stonewall,
And I blazed the way for Lee;
But if this old Union's in for war,
Make one more gun for me!

—Atlanta Constitution.

* * *

His Northern Brother.

Just make it two, old fellow,
I want to stand once more
Beneath the old flag with you
As in the days of yore.
Our fathers stood together
And fought on land and sea
The battles that have made us
A nation of the free.
I whipped you down at Vicksburg,
You licked me at Bull Run;
On many a field we struggled,
Where neither victory won.
You wore the gray of Southland,
I wore the Northern blue;
Like men we did our duty
When screaming bullets flew.
Four years we fought like devils,
But when the war was done
Your hand met mine in friendly clasp,
Our two hearts beat as one.
And now, when danger threatens,
No North, no South, we know,
Once more we stand together
To fight the common foe.
My head, like yours, is frosty—
Old age is creeping on;
Life's sun is lower sinking,
My day will soon be gone.
But if our country's honor
Needs once again her son,
I'm ready, too, old fellow,
So get another gun.

—Minneapolis Journal.

Mrs. Drew, Mr. Gladstone's daughter, believes his reverence for the Lord's Day to have contributed to his health and longevity. She says:—"Physically, intellectually, and spiritually, his Sunday has been a priceless blessing. From Saturday night to Monday morning he puts away all business of a secular nature, keeps to his special Sunday books and thoughts, and never dines out that day, unless to cheer a sick or sorrowing friend; nor will he ever travel on Sundays."

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NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

MAIN LINE.

Arr.	Arr.		Lv.	Lv.
11 00a	1 30p	Winnipeg	1 05p	9 30a
7 55	12 01a	" Morris	2 32	12 01a
5 15	11 09	" Emerson	3 23	2 45
4 15	10 55	" Pembina	3 37	4 15
10 20p	7 30	" Grand Forks	7 05	7 05a
1 15	4 05	" Winnipeg Junc	10 45	10 30p
	7 30	" Duluth	8 00a	
	8 30	" Minneapolis	6 40	
	8 00	" St. Paul	7 15	
	10 30	" Chicago	9 35	

MORRIS-BRANDON BRANCH.

Mon., Wed., Fri. Tues. Thur. Sat.

10 30 am	D . . .	Winnipeg	A	4 00 pm
12 15 pm	D . . .	" Morris	A	2 20
1 18		" Roland		1 23
1 36		" Rosebank		1 07
1 50		" Miami		12 53
2 25		" Altamont		12 21
2 43		" Somerset		12 03
3 40		" Greenway		11 10 am
3 55		" Baldur		10 50
4 19		" Belmont		10 25
4 37		" Hilton		10 17
5 00		" Wawanesa		9 55
5 23		" Rounthwaite		9 34
6 00 pm	A . . .	" Brandon	D	9 00 am

Taking effect Tuesday, Dec. 7th. Direct connection at Morris with train No. 103, westbound, and train No. 104 eastbound.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE BRANCH.

Lv.		Arr.
4.45 p.m.	Winnipeg	12.35 p.m.
7.30 p.m.	Portage la Prairie	9.30 a.m.

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2302

Never Fret.

Never you mind the crowd, lad,
Hold fast to the good and true;
There's an effort to make, and a prize to take
And a place somewhere for you.
And just the harder you strive, lad,
The farther ahead you'll get;
But if trouble arise, and you miss the prize,
Why it isn't worth while to fret.
Remember it's been like that, lad,
Since ever the world began—
The rhythmic beat of the marching feet,
And the urge of man to man;
So gird you in all your strength, lad,
With a will that's firmly set;
And then if you fail—why, you needn't bewail,
For it isn't worth while to fret.
Never you mind the crowd, lad;
Up and elbow your way;
For the surging ranks soon fill the blanks,
And there isn't a minute to stay.
And you'll find if you miss the best, lad,
It's the truest maxim yet;
That in duty done there is something won,
And it isn't worth while to fret.

"A Glimpse of the Trail."

By Rev. R. M. Dickey, in *Manitoba College Journal* for May.

In order to avoid the rush, we start away long before daylight, and reach the mouth of the canon by 8 o'clock. We have been travelling fairly rapidly over pretty good ice, riding where the trail is good, or where it passes through water, and helping the horse in the hard places. Reaching "the forks," where the Skagway and Porcupine rivers meet, we turn abruptly to the left, and the canon opens to our view—a canvas city—an army of gold-seekers in possession.

The narrow pass literally swarms with human life; the eyes are greeted by every imaginable sight, but no sound meets the ear—silence reigns supreme. Men are full of activity, but it is noiseless activity. When my companion speaks it is in a whisper. The grandeur of the scene has commanded the awe-stricken admiration even of this maddened crowd thirsting for gold.

On either side stand the mighty precipitous walls, scarce one hundred yards apart, bleak and uninviting, bearing still the scars of conflict in the great convulsions of nature many centuries ago. Away through the gorge a glimpse is caught of the snow-capped peaks, brilliant with a tinge of the morning sun, which has not yet penetrated with warmth and light this deep recess.

Through this canon in the spring and summer the Porcupine river madly rushes, sweeping before it trees, rocks, everything that opposes its mad race towards the sea. But now it is frozen for the most part. Here and there the strong current below forces a passage out through the ice, or the continuous travel above wears it away and gives a glimpse of the sparkling water below rushing towards the bay.

The trail lies along the centre of the deep valley, and has on either side a continuous row of tents and piles of provisions that would feed an army. These tents are motley. From the little 6x8, into which three or four men crawl to sleep, up to the 20x30, with the brazen sign "Saloon." Think of it! Three saloons and gambling tents in that canon running full blast night and day without

hindrance and no effort made to counteract the evil or to remind the people that they owe allegiance to God, the Great Creator!

At the people a glimpse. They are all moving on, impatient at the delay. Many of them are provided with horses, and pull ten hundred pounds on two sleds tied together. The clumsy ox, slow but sure, does good work. A continuous procession is formed as far as we can see, and we who are behind wonder why the long delay. Bye and bye those in front move on; we follow and see the cause. The ice has given away—a deep hole is formed. The poor animals have to plunge down into the hole and scramble up the opposite bank of ice. It is a terrible sight. Men seem to lose their humanity and abuse both their animals and one another. The silence is somewhat broken, but even yet streams of foul language flow in an undertone. "Move on, there, or let me pass," shouts one fellow. "No; but come here and take your coat off, and I'll teach you a little manners," is the reply. And "tell it not in Gath," the second speaker is a minister. The dangerous holes passed, I stroll back a little to view the procession. There comes a mule pack team. They do not kick any one while I am looking, but they seem to live and move on their reputation, for no one disputes their right of way. Everyone gives them as much room as possible, and so they pass on and leave the struggling horses far behind. A poor little donkey struggles on with his heavy load and needs to be reminded very frequently that he has not yet reached his destination. The driver seems to lose courage and to have come to an end of his profane vocabulary. Another remarks to him: "Friend, your donkey seems a little tired." "Tired? Well, I should smile!" he replied, and he stood in a contemplative attitude. Then added: "But stranger, what bothers me is this—I used to believe the Bible, but I can't see how old man Christ ever got to Jerusalem riding on an animal like that." So, away here on the trail men are finding Biblical difficulties that critics never dreamed of, and that it would be well for our Society to solve.

The dog teams are numerous. They travel very rapidly, pass and re-pass the horses, travelling over places where horses would break their necks. The reindeer are scarce and are so hard to manage that one is not much encouraged to think of the success of the American relief expedition. But, perhaps the saddest sight of all is the poor fellows who are trying to pull their own sleds. With 200 lbs. on a sled, their shirt fronts open to the breeze, their heads bent, their teeth set, they struggle on, lured by the greed of gold. Is it any wonder they contract disease, toiling thus all day, sleeping in cold tents at night, often too weary to cook themselves a palatable supper? No king, no tyrant, ever compelled his slaves to work as these men toil for King Gold. And, like all tyrants, he may richly reward the favored few, but for the rank and file I fear there is but disappointment or death.

There are not many women on the trail, but they are able to hold their own. One is driving a team of dogs to break them in. A big burly fellow grabs the chain, and says, "That is my team." The woman quietly lifts a heavy stick and gives him three or four arguments over the head with it, and replies, "Is it your team?" "No, ma'am," he says; "I made a mistake." And he evidently had. Every nationality is represented. The Jews are much in evidence, and seem to make money on the trail, as everywhere, buying and selling. The Americans are

in the majority, and can be heard assuring those who will listen of how they will deal with the Canadian police when they reach the summit. There, however, their better sense guides them, and they settle up their duties like men. The German and French blend with Italian and Spanish in ordinary conversation, but when it comes to swearing, they can all use the English very fluently.

What surprises me perhaps most of all is the large number of the boys who know me. One after another has a cheery word, and they seem pleased to meet some one who has the time and inclination to shake their hands with them and enquire after their welfare. Few of them are personally known to me. They must have been among the crowd that usually stands at the back of the church Sunday nights, being new-comers and unused to the Klondyke garb, they are diffident about coming up to the front. They load me with many commissions. One, a Salvation Army man, has a partner sick in a bunk-house, and he wants him looked after. Another has a brother dangerously ill in the hospital. Another wants me to get mail for him, and that is no easy matter in Skagway. A line stands at the post office wicket all day. A man can only get mail for one at a time. He must go back again to the end of the line for each man's mail for which he enquires and take his turn. I have usually a list of half a dozen, and have to watch a chance when the line is short.

And so, with many good wishes and hopes to meet again on the other side, I wend my homeward way, humbled to think how little after all we are doing for this gold-maddened crowd rushing to the Klondyke. For all the gold in those vast regions I would not advise a friend to undertake the perils. But should the voice of our King and Head call for more men, my earnest hope and prayer is that the men of the summer session of 1898 will one and another say, "Here am I, send me."

Home Life.

How many persons there are who know practically nothing concerning home life! We pride ourselves upon the fact that our language is one of the few—if not the only one—that has that expressive word "home." How much that means to most of us, and yet there are those, and they are not few, who know the meaning of the word simply because it is in the language or the dictionary, and have but a faint idea of its real significance. The concentration of populations in our great cities and the gradual depopulation of our country, explains the reason for this in a large measure. These young people who leave their country homes to seek fortune in the cities must of necessity live in boarding homes. Here they lose all ideas of home life—that is to say, most of them do. Of course there are some who are fortunate enough to secure homelike places, but most of them must content themselves with their sleeping rooms for living purposes, the dining room at meal hours, and the street or other places for recreation. The idea of home becomes to them after awhile but a recollection, a fond one if you will, but still a recollection—a memory of the past.

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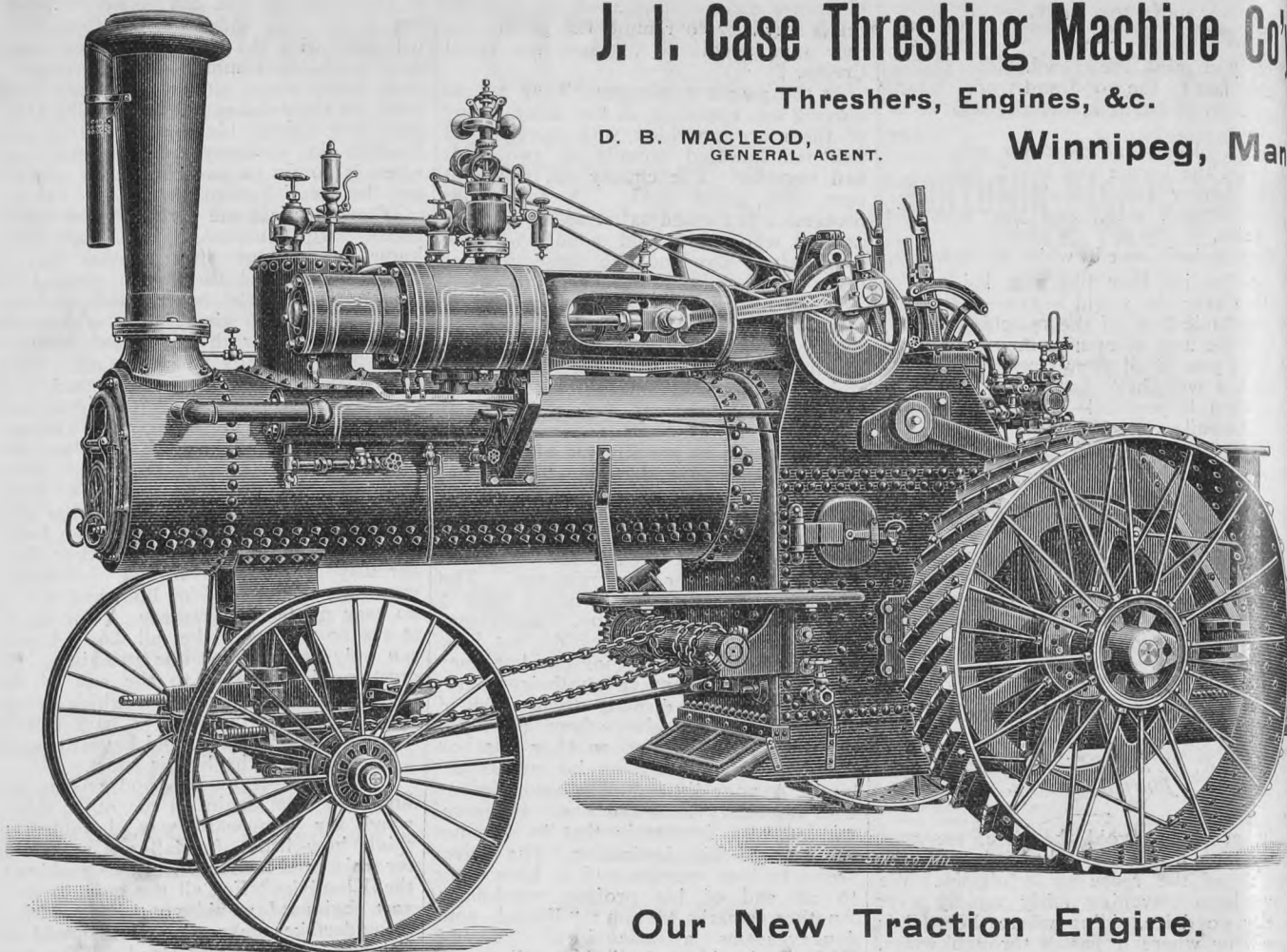
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Just Be Glad.

O heart of mine, we shouldn't
Worry so!
What we've missed of calm we couldn't
Have, you know!
What we've met of stormy pain,
And of sorrow's driving rain,
We can better meet again
If it blow.

We have erred in that dark hour,
We have known,
When the tears fell with the shower
All alone—
Were not the shine and shower blent
As the gracious Master meant?
Let us temper our content
With his own.

For we know not every sorrow
Can be said;
So, forgetting all the sorrow
We have had,
Let us fold away our fears,
And put by our foolish tears,
And through all the coming years
Just be glad.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

The Naval Militia.

Let us see exactly what the work of the Naval Militia is to be. They are first, as has been said, a coast-guard in charge of the Coast Signal Service. This service is, with the co-operation of the Light-house Board, to be put in immediate operation. Whenever there is a lighthouse on the coasts in the vicinity of harbors there is to be a signal station, and these are to be connected by means of life-sav-

ing stations and new signal stations, so that there will be a chain of stations connected at principal points with Washington.

Cape Cod, Navesink Light near Sandy Hook, Barnegat, Cape May, Cape Henry, Jupiter Inlet, Fla., Tampa, Mobile Bay and Port Eads are to be the principal stations on the Atlantic and Gulf; San Diego, San Francisco and the mouth of Puget Sound on the Pacific. Between the stations, on each coast, communication will be kept up by semaphore, heliograph, flag and wire by day, and by the usual methods of night signalling and wire at night. The same means of signalling will be used to communicate with fleets in the offing, which, in turn, will use carrier pigeons, and when near enough, signalling, as a means of communication with stations on the shore.

With these stations manned, it would be impossible for an enemy to approach our principal harbors unseen, unless, indeed, a heavy fog hid his movements. The outer line of cruising ships and "scouts" of the "Mosquito Fleet," cruising fifteen or twenty miles out, would detect the approach; and while the men-of-war would offer battle, the swiftest of the scouts would hasten shoreward and signal the nearest station. The news would fly from post to post along the shore, and to Washington; and when the second line was reached gunners would be at their posts, electricians ready to press the buttons which fire mines, and the torpedo fleet ready for action.—Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly for June.

Dangerous Men.

The worst atheists are not the Bob Ingersoll type, but the men who make a profession of faith in church and prayer meeting, and deny God in business and politics. The dangerous classes in society are not the tramps, the vicious and the reckless; they are the lawyers, the merchants, the editors and the preachers who live in comfortable homes and sit in elegant churches, who see the wrongs and evils of society, but who say complacently: "It is too bad, but they cannot be righted."

The average length of a new-born child is 21-in. and the average weight is 7 lb. Between three and four years the child should be 3 ft. high and weigh 28 pounds; a year later, 3½ ft. high and 42 pounds in weight; in the eighth year, 4 ft. in height and 56 pounds in weight; at twelve years of age, about 5 ft. tall and 70 pounds in weight. Of course these are the average numbers for normal children, for the rate of growth varies greatly in children and young people in their teens, as we all have observed.

A waste of talent sometimes occurs on the farm through keeping the boy at home and trying to make a farmer of him when his thought and talent are in some other occupation. Not every boy farm-born is a born farmer; and while parents find it hard, many times, to see their son leave the old home to fit himself for some profession other than agriculture, yet if his talents lie in another direction it is unwise to waste them by tying him to the farm against his will. You may succeed in keeping him on the farm, but the chances are that you will never make him a first-class farmer.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY,

Take Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets. All Drug-gists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. [2250]